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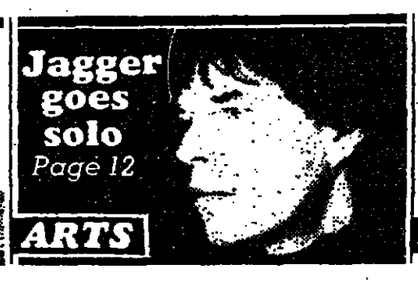
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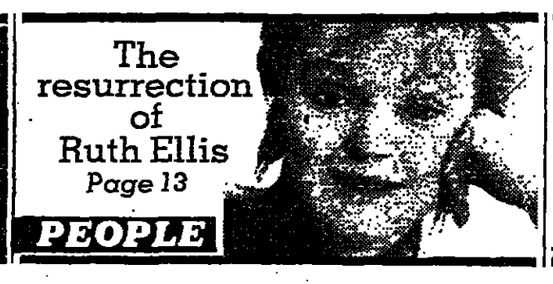
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Treasuries act to calm money markets

Soaring dollar deflates PM

By Alex Brummer, Peter Rodgers and James Naughtie

Treasury officials on both sides of the Atlantic last night sought to calm the foreign exchanges after President Reagan embarrassed Mrs Thatcher by sending the dollar soaring to new heights.

The dollar's advance came within hours of Mrs Thatcher's public expression of anxiety that the dollar should be restrained, and after she had left a clear impression that President Reagan and his team were as worried about the dollar's rise as other Western economic powers.

Mr Reagan's comments on Thursday night at a nationally televised news conference that there was no point in trying to knock down the dollar helped push the pound to a new closing low against the dollar of $1.0765, 0.65 cents down, after touching a record low of $1.0720. The German mark was even worse hit, falling 3.25 pfennigs to a 14-year low of DM3.3925.

US monetary officials claimed that there had been no change in official policy. The British reaction was that President Reagan likes to stick to simple political truths, and that it was absurd to see his comments on the dollar as a technical message about the attitudes of the United States towards intervention on the foreign exchanges.

However, there was no disguising the irritation in Whitehall at the timing of the President's remarks, which foreign exchange dealers blamed for a large part of the new strength of the currency. It has already been boosted this week by the US Federal Reserve chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, whose testimony on Wednesday was interpreted as leading to higher US interest rates.

Mrs Thatcher faced a chorus of derision from the Opposition when she returned from her visit to Washington yesterday.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the Shadow Chancellor, said: "Her reward for her open infatuation has been a slap in the face." Mr Reagan had made it brutally clear that he did not intend to bail out the British economy.

"If Mrs Thatcher went to the United States with any serious purpose, she has come back totally empty-handed," Mr Hattersley said.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, joined in the criticism, and said Mrs Thatcher had admitted that she was helpless in preventing the rise of the dollar and the fall of the pound.

Mr Steel said that Mrs Thatcher was sending the currency markets a message that she had given up. "The Chancellor should therefore tell us whether the pound sterling would not have been at exactly the same level today without his panic action.

"If this is so, every householder with a mortgage has suffered in vain, paying out hundreds of pounds a year in extra interest because of negligent Nigel's mismanagement."

Mrs Thatcher watched the Reagan press conference at the British embassy in Washington after meeting the president's economic cabinet a few hours earlier.

Mrs Thatcher had left the impression that Mr Reagan was worried about the dollar's rise, but said there were no ready answers to the problem. She brushed aside the notion that she needed to teach the Americans anything about the budget deficit or the dollar.

At his press conference, Mr Reagan, putting aside the growing alarm in the US and abroad about the strong dollar, said: "I think if we start toying around with trying to reduce the value of the dollar, we put ourselves back into the inflation spiral, and that we don't want." He also noted that American consumers were benefitting from the dollar's strength by "the purchase of products which are cheap by our standards."

With the Prime Minister still on American soil, Mr Reagan began to muse aloud at his press conference about the difficulties of bringing the dollar's value down.

"I can remember when our dollar was devalued," Mr Reagan said, "and there weren't many people happy about that. I think the problem of the dollar today is that our trading partners in the world have not caught up with us in economic recovery."

The President, rather than recommending any changes in

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RETAIL prices rose to 5 per cent in the year to January, according to figures published yesterday. The figure in December was 4.6 per cent and with the rise in mortgage rates, petrol prices and gas tariffs still to work through that may prove a low point, writes Chris Huhne. Most independent forecasters expect the inflation to stay above 5 per cent during the next six months. Report, back page; leader comment, page 14



Haing Ngor, right, star of the film The Killing Fields, flew into Nice from the United States yesterday to meet a niece he had not seen since a family separation in the 1975 evacuation of Cambodia. The neice, now Mrs Don Pichsangha, who recognised Haing Ngor in the film, was with her husband to greet him.

Next week

Monday

DREAM TIMES
Dreams of fun and freedom never seemed closer to reality than in the Sixties. Ann Shearer examines the Changing Image of Women

FREEDOM TO CONFUSE
Freedom of information US-style means the truth disappears beneath a mountain of paper. The Media Page investigates

ROYAL VIEWS
Prince Charles is outspoken about buildings he dislikes. Guardian Arts

Tuesday

TUNING IN
From delphiniums to woks, business is booming. Education Guardian reports on educational broadcasting

CALL OF THE WILD
In Papua New Guinea they hail her as an honorary man. But Christina Dodwell knows that a girl's best friend is her horse. Guardian Women

Wednesday

MECHANICAL VIRTUES
Who would want a computer which fell in love? Mary Midgley on motives and machines in Body and Soul

BODY WORK
Muscles needn't be macho. Guardian Women takes a look at Charlotte Atlas and the knock-out women

Teachers to ballot after law ruling

By Andrew Moncur
Education Staff

THE National Union of Teachers was last night compelled to halt its campaign of disruptive action in schools in Solihull, West Midlands — but possibly only for a single day.

The union was ordered by a High Court judge to call off its 16-day campaign of sanctions, which launched teachers into industrial action during their current pay dispute, because it had been called without a ballot.

But the NUT immediately announced that it would ballot its 1,000 members in Solihull on Mouday. And Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary, said that he was confident of winning support for resumption of the action. The NUT is due to start selective strike action — whose legality has not been challenged — in Solihull on Tuesday.

Mr Justice Warner granted an injunction to Solihull borough council, which had argued that the NUT had called for disruptive action without first balloting members, this losing under the 1984 Trade Union Act immunity to legal action.

The Solihull legal action was regarded by other education authorities as a test case. But the judgment did not settle whether the sanctions applied by the NUT amount to a withdrawal of goodwill, as the union insists, or a breach of contract, as the authorities believe.

The union has asked members to refuse to cover for absent staff, and to boycott school lunches and out-

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Miners to meet TUC again in new search for negotiations

By John Ardill and James Naughtie

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers held out the hope yesterday that talks may still be possible with the coal board as their members began a new surge back to work.

Although coalfield conferences in South Wales and Durham voted to stay on strike the board claimed there were 456 new faces at the pits, the second highest figure for a Friday since the drift back began.

The TUC last night agreed to an NUM request for a meeting with its finance and general purposes committee on Monday to review the failure of the attempts by the general secretary, Mr Norman Willis, to bridge the gap between the union and the board.

The NUM general secretary, Mr Peter Heathfield said the three national officials hoped to explain the union's position to the committee "and on the basis of that move forward." He said on BBC radio, "I think the overwhelming majority of miners at present on strike will continue to strike. I would hope, also, that we are able to get back round the

Court challenge, page 2

table to end this long bitter dispute."

Mr Heathfield did not accept that the NUM had isolated itself from the TUC but he said there "could have been a misunderstanding" between the two. He added that trying to work out details of an agreement through a third party was "virtually impossible."

The Government last night launched a campaign to urge more striking miners to return to work next week.

The Energy Secretary, Mr Peter Walker, said: "It is Britain's striking miners who can now bring a swift end to this dispute." He made it clear in a statement that the Government's hopes for the defeat of Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, now rest on an acceleration in the drift back to work.

Mr Walker said: "Within hours of the appalling Scargill rejection of the TUC's efforts, even on a Friday, those miners remaining on strike have started to take the only sane decision and return to work."

His comments will be echoed by other ministers over the weekend, in the hope that a rise in the numbers working would put increased pressure on the NUM leadership, but there are still worries among senior ministers over the possibility of an organised return to work without a settlement.

Some of those close to Mrs

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NEWS IN BRIEF

CIA blow on arms

A REPORT by the CIA showing that the Soviet Union is spending less on defence than the United States has punched holes in the Americans' justification for its military build-up. Page 6.

Tapping challenge

THE Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, has been challenged to allow an inquiry into allegations of improper telephone tapping by MI5. Back page.

BMA caves in

THE British Medical Association has bowed to reality and is planning co-operation with the Government over limitations to the NHS drugs list. Page 3.

M & S in credit

MARKS and Spencer's credit card scheme seems certain to be a huge success, and Woolworths could be next in the High Street shopping scramble. Page 20.

NZ warning

THE prime minister of New Zealand has told the Soviet Union not to interfere in the dispute with the United States over visits by American warships to his country's ports. Page 6.

PWR denial

THE Central Electricity Generating Board has scoffed at suggestions that weapons production is behind its plans for a pressurised water reactor in Suffolk. Page 3.

Slow death

A DOCKER's wife has died from mesothelioma after years of washing her husband's asbestos-covered work clothes. Back page.

The weather

CLOUDY but dry. Details back page.

THE GUARDIAN IN EUROPE

Austria	26 sch	Greece	100 dr
Belgium	45 fr	Holland	3.25 gld
Denmark	8.50 kr	Italy	1,800 lire
Eire	85p	Malta	26c
France	7.00 fr	Spain	170 ptr
Germany	3.50 dm	Switzerland	3 fr

Reagan fluffs lines in Nicaragua script

From Michael White in Washington

President Reagan's unprecedented call for the reconstruction or overthrow of the Sandinista Government in Nicaragua yesterday reduced White House officials to stonewalling silence.

Not for the first time, the President had fluffed some unscripted lines in one of his press conferences, leaving officials to sort the wheat from thechaff.

His salvo against the left-wing Sandinistas, the second in a week, was echoed last night by the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz, in a denunciation of their "Communist tyranny."

At briefings given at both White House and State Department officials testily referred inquirers to the President's own words without further elaboration.

Asked whether the Administration's goals now included overthrow of the regime in Managua, the President said on nationwide TV: "Well, removed in the sense of its present structure in which it is a communist, totalitarian state." Urging them to share power, he added later: "We're saying we want them to have a chance to have that democracy they fought for. And I don't think the Sandinistas have a decent leg to stand on."

Plainly the remarks fell short of a direct appeal to overthrow the government of another country. Mr Reagan cited, however, both the UN and Organisation of American States charters to justify the US's right to collective and individual self-defence in the region. But his main emphasis was on internal democracy.

In the wake of the speech, officials said that US policy was fourfold: internal democracy, the restoration of military equilibrium in the region, the removal of Cuban and Soviet support inside Nicaragua, and an end to its alleged subversion of its neighbours. The Administration believes that the Sandinistas have dishonoured pledges made to the OAS.

Mr Reagan and Mr Shultz are stepping up the propaganda war, as an alternative to direct intervention, which few in Congress anticipate.

In San Francisco last night, Mr Shultz said: "The bottom line is this. Those who would cut off these freedom fighters from the rest of the democratic world are in effect con-

Turn to back page, col. 1

Chernenko too ill to give poll speech

From Martin Walker in Moscow

President Chernenko was too ill to deliver his scheduled election address last night, Foreign Ministry officials said yesterday.

His failure to appear at the traditional eve-of-poll meeting in the Kremlin, which would have been nationally televised, means that the severity of his illness will now become widely known among the Soviet public. His speech was read for him.

Until two days ago, officials had still hoped that Mr Chernenko would have been fit enough to appear. It is now almost two months since he was last seen in public, and during that time he has failed to make his expected appearance at a number of increasingly important events.

An invalid leader who can still manage to make formal appearances at the major occasions of state is one thing: in the last years of Mr Brezhnev's rule, and under both Mr Andropov and Mr Chernenko, the Soviet system had grown accustomed to that.

But there are two dates looming later this year which would be almost unthinkable, without the leader's presence.

The first is the fourtieth anniversary of victory in the second world war to be held in Red Square on May 9, which is being planned as the grandest ceremonial occasion for years.

The second, and far more important for the Soviet system, is the twenty-seventh Communist Party congress, which is due to be held in October or November this year. This congress, which will set the nation's course for years to come, would be like Hamlet without the prince in the absence of the party leader.

These considerations provide the basis for speculation which has been washing around Moscow in recent days that an honourable retirement for Mr Chernenko is now under consideration. It would be the first such orderly transition the Soviet state had ever made: all Soviet leaders have hitherto died in office, save Mr Khrushchev, who was dispatched on a modest pension as a result of a Kremlin coup.

The lack of precedent for such a transition makes it inherently unlikely, but the alternative of soldiering on with an absentee leader could well seem even worse.

In this context, it may be significant that Mr Gorbachev has in recent days strengthened his position as the heir apparent. When he delivered his election address on Wednesday another Politburo member, Mr Victor Grishin, and two of the most powerful central committee secretaries, Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, in charge of the economic department, and Mr Egor Ligachev, head of the party's organising department, stood in his entourage.

This is a signal honour, and Western observers have contrasted this with the relatively low-ranking treatment given to the election address of Mr Romanov, the former Leningrad party chief who is usually seen as Mr Gorbachev's main rival for the succession.

Picture, page 6

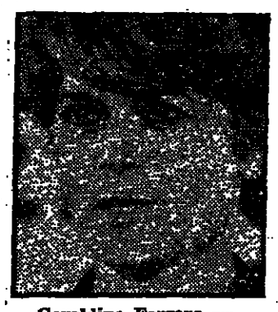
Ferraro goes commercial

From Michael White in Washington

Mrs Geraldine Ferraro, the obscure New York congresswoman who won national celebrity after she was chosen to run a doomed but courageous bid for the vice-presidency, has made a 30-second television commercial for Diet Pepsi. The reported fee was more than $500,000.

This is only a tenth of what the pop star, Michael Jackson, was making when his hair caught fire during the shooting of a Pepsi commercial last year. But the disclosure, which comes in a week when Mrs Ferraro's husband, John A. Zaccaro, was sentenced to 150 days community service for fraudulent real estate dealings, has prompted speculation that she is cashing in on her political fame and ruining her chances of a comeback.

It also serves to underline the extent to which the packaging of American politicians, elective police chiefs, and even judges in some states, is so close to the slick world of TV ads that the move is a natural one.



Geraldine Ferraro — opting out?

In Mrs Ferraro's Pepsi ad, filmed at her home in Queens, New York, under her own "artistic control," the two-term congresswoman is seen chatting with her grown-up daughters about career choices open to women, including motherhood—a frequent theme of her speeches when campaigning with Mr Mondale against President Reagan last year.

She is not identified in the commercial, nor is the handily placed can of Pepsi in the shot. But even her close associates have admitted that the move is "a gamble," proof that the world's number two soft drink firm's market research confirms what Mr Mondale thought about Mrs Ferraro's appeal—even if white male voters disagreed.

But some advisers apparently felt that she would be wiser sticking to the lecture tour—where she can command $20,000 a night—rather than work for Pepsi or give hostages to fortune by writing her $1 million memoirs, due to be completed by April.

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SAVE & PROSPER

NUM area says working miners have broken rules

Durham wants court to lift expulsions ban

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

The Durham area miners' union will next month ask the High Court to lift an injunction banning the union from expelling working miners.

Nine Durham miners employed by a private drift mine, the Crookhall coal company, near Consett won an injunction at an ex parte hearing in July, banning their expulsion for working.

But according to the men's solicitor, Mr John Flynn, the nine were expelled by the Durham area on December 19. A further injunction was granted at an ex parte hearing on January 11, restraining the area union from disciplining the men.

The Durham area on Thursday applied for a discharge of the injunction, and the High Court will hear the case on March 4.

The union said yesterday that 176 miners have been expelled. A further 40 cases are pending. The men are being expelled under the area union's rule 39, which is a replica of the national disciplinary rule 51, declared invalid by the High Court after it was passed by the national union's delegate conference in July.

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Megarry, declared the changes invalid on the grounds that the Nottinghamshire area had not had sufficient time to mandate its delegates.

Rule 51 was subsequently passed again, without legal challenge, by a second delegate conference held on August 10. Under the rule, any miner may be disciplined if he is deemed to have committed any action which may be detrimental to the interests of the union.

Solicitors acting for the area union said yesterday that they were seeking a discharge of the injunction on the grounds that there is a lawful strike in the Durham area and that the miners have crossed picket lines in breach of union rules.

The Durham rules do not require the union to hold own individual ballot before a strike. The union claims that the strike is an area strike officially sanctioned under national rule 41, ballot, as required under the national union rule 43.

The area union says that 1,800 National Union of Mineworkers members are working. The National Coal Board puts the figure at 4,825.

One miner, Ian Barwick, from Eppleton pit, has appealed against his expulsion to the union's national appeal committee, which was established under Rule 51.

Mr Barwick's solicitor, Mr Bill Taylor, said yesterday: "We believe it is better to seek common sense through the union's internal machinery instead of rushing to the courts."

Another expelled miner, Mr Brian Dawson, works at the Wearmouth colliery. His solicitors had been seeking legal aid to bring proceedings for his reinstatement, but Mr Dawson agreed yesterday to be financed by the National Working Miners Committee.



Sir Robert Megarry — 'changes involved'

The expulsions may have caused some embarrassment to the national union. The president, Mr Arthur Scargill, and the general secretary, Mr Peter Heathfield, have attempted to soothe fears in working areas that miners will not be expelled under rule 51 simply for going to work.

However, the expulsions in the Durham area are a result of grassroots pressure which the national union cannot stop. There have also been expulsions by the South Wales area and Durham Mechanics.

Wholesale expulsions will not only destroy the de facto closed shop in the industry, but also substantially reduce subscriptions to the union.

Mr David Negus, the solicitor co-ordinating the legal activities of the National Working Miners Committee, said yesterday that the committee would step up attempts to make members of the union's national executive personally liable for the £200,000 contempt fine imposed on the union last September.

The committee is also awaiting council's opinion on the possibility of forcing Mr Scargill to face re-election as president under the Trade Union Act, 1984.

Under the act, any voting member of a union's principal executive committee must be subject to a re-election in a secret ballot of the whole membership every five years. But Mr Scargill does not have a regular vote on the executive and may not be covered by the terms of the act.

David Hencke writes: Social security commissioners have dismissed a case brought by Mr Nicholas Bland, a striking Nottinghamshire miner, that the Department of Health was not entitled to deduct £16 a week from supplementary benefit paid to striking miners' families. Mr Bland, who was advised by the Child Poverty Action Group, is now considering taking his case to the Court of Appeal.

Two Scottish miners, Mr Robert Laird and Mr Daniel Devine, lost a case at a Stirling appeals tribunal over family income supplement payments to their wives. They are now considering an appeal to the commissioners.

Christians prepare for struggle

Martyn Halsall looks at the Church Militant and James Naughtie reports on the latest Church-State clash

THE newest national Christian magazine is called Struggle. On its front cover is a photograph of Father Christmas under police arrest in central London after collecting money for the families of striking miners.

To the 10,000 Christians whose 26 organisations compose the radical Christian Organisations for Social, Political and Economic Change (Cospec), such arrests are prophetic. The policies of Mrs Thatcher, they say, produce "*an inevitable sharpening* of social conflict and an increasing state violence."

Its ultimate symbol is the coal dispute. The Christian cannot be impartial, says the Cospec gospel. "We act from *love and anger*, and we take sides." This means opposition to the Police Bill, the Nationality Act, the proposed *abolition of metropolitan* councils and reduced social services

"We have a responsibility, along with all members of the left to unite in opposition to this Government and promote peace and justice," said Struggle magazine. Those looking for the sharp end of the debate about church and politics need go no further.

As new readers were dipping into Struggle, Mrs Thatcher was opening a letter from the senior council of the United Reformed Church signed by the denomination's general secretary, the Rev Bernard Thorogood. It told the Prime Minister that tax increases were preferable to her government's "deplorable" failure to support the World Bank special fund for those starving in Africa.

As Mrs Thatcher gave her first interview in Washington, 50 members of Catholic Peace Action held a service opposite the Ministry of Defence to pray for the peace of the world. There were four arrests.

Nowhere have church and politics collided more ferociously than in the Church of England. The established *Church*, and particularly a minority of its bishops, have been attacked for questioning nuclear weapons, deflating Falklands jingoism and generally judging government policies. At the outer edges of an escalating debate there have been murmurs of disestablishment.

The most urgent issue for the Church "is to examine the function and role of politics and the political situation," said the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard.

"Until we get that right, we shall go on in the unsatisfactory way that some people are regarded as non-Christian." Stung by jibes about being "Mrs Thatcher's lap-dog" and pointing to his *House of Lords voting* record against the Government on major issues, Dr Leonard nevertheless dislikes the *monopolisation* of compassion in church by the Christian Left.

"I have the feeling that it has arisen because of the underlying assumption that Leftwing policies have a monopoly of being kind and compassionate," he said. The *church must be involved in* political issues but not be identified with political parties. "This does raise problems for responsible people in the chruch. . . . I do not believe bishops or parish *priests should* be publicly committed to a particularly party."

Paradoxically — its critics would say predictably — the General Synod decided recently not to proceed with two matters where *collision* with the State appeared inevitable. A Church measure (or bill) abolishing Tudor practices confirming the election of bishops is not to be returned to Paraliment, following its initial rejection last July.

It was widely felt that when MPs voted during a late night debate by only 32 votes to 17 against the Appointment of Bishops Measure they were expressing anxieties about Church-State tensions in general, rather than that specific proposal.

Both Mr John Gummer, a synod member for the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich diocese and chairman of the Conservative *Party*, and Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead and his party's *spokesman* on church affairs, urged the Church to reserve its appetite for battle for graver occasions.

Both cleared their credentials. Mr Gummer said he spoke "as one who has both *feet first* and foremost in the Church ... and not as the delegate or representative of anywhere or anybody else." (*The synod* is increasingly sceptical of affairs "across the road" in another Westminster debating chamber).

Mr Field said that when MPs cast their votes on *church affairs* they were not being "interfering old busybodies" but people "with a real love for the Church."

Later the synod adjourned a debate on cruise and Trident missiles. But immediately afterwards it became clear that *leading questions* will be pressed on the Government by church leaders concerned about nuclear disarmament. *There will be* increasing intolerence towards evasion.

And in April Cospec has "conflict" at the top of its agenda.

Bus minister attacks bishop

The Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev. David Jenkins, found himself under fire again last night from another Government minister, this time over his criticism of the Transport Bill to deregulate bus services.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, was responding to the bishop's suggestion that the bill cold harm the poor and widen the gulf between different areas of the country. He said: "I am concerned that you seem to feel it right to add fuel to the feeling of alienation between the North and the South. If reconciliation is to be achieved, then steps in the right direction have to be acknowledged and welcomed."

He said the bishop had misunderstood the bill which would still allow local authorities to provide concessionary fares and did not affect total levels of subsidy.

Cross-subsidy was effectively a tax on the poor, subsidising other bus travellers on uneconomic routes which tended to be in more prosperous areas.

Woman in pub bombings case is released

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Mrs Annie Maguire, the grandmother convicted of *explosive offences in 1975* after the Guildford and Woolwich pub bombings the year before, was released from prison yesterday.

Mrs Maguire, aged 49, received full remission on her 14-*year sentence*. A campaign will begin today to clear her name and those of her co-defendants.

Patrick Maguire, her husband, two sons, *Vincent and Patrick*, a brother, Sean Smyth, and a friend, are already free after serving sentences of between five and 14 years.

Another of those convicted of possessing explosives, Guiseppe Conlon, a brother in law, died in prison in 1980. Mrs Maguire, who was allowed parole earlier this year, was released from Cookhamwood Prison in Kent.

The bombs in Woolwich and Guildford killed six people and *injured dozens of others*.

Politicians and churchmen in Northern Ireland have expressed strong reservations *about the convictions*.

They stem from a confession from one of four men later found guilty of the bombings that he learned to make the devices in "Auntie Annie's kitchen."

The prosecution case was based on chromotography tests which revealed tiny traces of explosives from their hands and a kitchen glove found in Mrs Maguire's London home. The tests were carried out by an apprentice who did not keep control samples so no checks could be carried out.

At the trial, the scientist who developed the test said it was unreliable and later research has cast more doubt on the test.

Similar results could apparently have been obtained from the residue of cigarettes or household cleaning materials.

It has long been argued that the Maguire *family background* was hardly consistent with the offences of which they were convicted. Mr Maguire served in the British army and his wife was a member of a Conservative association.

Mr John Hume, the leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, has written to Mrs Thatcher asking that the case be reopened. "The background, personal history and circumstances of each of the accused was completely inconsistent with any criminal or violent activity," he said.



Annie Maguire — campaign to prove innocence

Delegates back Welsh president

by Paul Hoyland

South Wales miners delegates remained loyal to the strike yesterday after hearing a report from their president, *Mr Emlyn Williams, on how* the union had "climbed down to the gutter" in its negotiations, only to be treated with contempt by the Government.

At a meeting at Bridgend in Mid-Glamorgan, 600 delegates voted overwhelmingly to endorse the decision of the national delegates conference to continue the strike.

The resolute response to the collapse in peace talks will help boost the union as it struggles to stem the drift back to work in other coalfields. Mr Williams made it clear, however, that he would not allow his 19,000 members to be isolated.

The question of a united return to work without a negotiated settlement was raised by some of the 39 speakers at the conference but was not well supported.

Only one lodge did not back the resolution to continue the strike. "The lodge objection was based on the fact that they believe there should have been talks," said Mr Williams.

He repeated that the NUM had "compromised to the extreme" on the board's negotiating document. "*Many of us* felt that we had given too much to the board and I was a *most amazed man to find out* that this was treated with contempt," he said.

"The following document *that came at the behest of the* prime minister was too hard even for the right-wingers to accept in the NEC."

Mr Williams dismissed the Energy Secretary's rejection of further talks. "Peter Walker said there will be no more *talks on about 10 occasions.*" Mr Williams said economic and public pressure would force them to talk.

The delegates had emphasised they would not return to work without all the miners who had been sacked during *the dispute*.

Mr Terry Thomas, the area vice-president, said the next seven days were crucial for *the union. It had to get the* explanation across to members that the board's latest documents were even worse than those *presented* last weekend.

Union leaders will be keeping a special eye on a mass meeting today of miners from *South Celynen colliery, near* Newbridge, Gwent, where there is pressure for a return to work.

The board claimed that 509 miners, representing less than 3 per cent of the workforce, had reported for duty in South Wales yesterday.



The Princess of Wales is overwhelmed by flowers as crowds gather to meet her in Cirencester, Gloucestershire yesterday. The Princess earlier visited a police station.

Labour call for 'guerrilla action'

By John Carvel, Local Government Correspondent

London's 10 rate-capped Labour councils should throw themselves into the struggle against the Government by opening up a "second front" in support of the miners, Mr John McDonnell, deputy leader of the GLC, writes in the latest issue of London Labour Briefing.

He warns that if right-wingers on the Labour group "betray" its chosen *strategy* of refusing to fix a rate, then *GLC Labour will embark on* "*guerrilla warfare*" to block spending cuts, and continue to push funds out to the Labour boroughs.

Mr McDonnell is masterminding GLC tactics on the rate-capping issue while the leader, Mr Ken Livingstone, concentrates on the campaign against the council's abolition. His article seeks to provide the London left with an explanation of how the battle will proceed whether or not a decision *is taken by the full council on* March 7 to defy the law.

In two weeks, the Labour Party in London could make "its most vital contribution to the miners' dispute by opening up a second front against the Government on rate-capping," he says.

"On the council's budget day it will be for Labour councillors to decide whether to implement the Government's budget for London involving about £400 million worth of cuts in service and jobs, or to stand firm and refuse to make a cuts budget."

He points out that the London Labour Party conference urged Labour councils to take on the Government and not to set a rate. "If London's Labour councils stood together in defiance of the Government's demands for cuts there would be a major constitutional crisis which would make Poplar and Clay Cross look like minor skirmishes.

"It is vital for *comrades* to demonstrate active support for their local and GLC councillors who are determined to uphold party *policy on rate capping* and refuse to set a rate.

"It is equally important that comrades apply pressure on *those councillors* who are potentially likely to renege.

Mr McDonnell says that Labour councillors have known for two years that this struggle was coming and should have stood down already if they had any doubts. It looked certain that the Inner London Education Authority and several London boroughs would stand firm, but the GLC Labour group only had a *majority* of four over the Tories. "It would be relatively easy for a few *right-wingers on the GLC* Labour group to block the no-rate option in the full council chamber, even if it is carried *in the Labour group.*"

Mr McDonnell continued: "If the no-rate option is defeated in the *GLC council* chamber as a result of a betrayal by the right, the left will fall back upon a deficit budget and refuse to allow a budget to go through which entails any cuts.

"In the following weeks and months therefore guerrilla warfare will be going on at County Hall as the leadership and left members block any cuts proposals coming before council committees.

"At the same time we will be pushing GLC funds out to the Labour boroughs, who have stood firm on not making a rate, to ensure that they can continue paying wages for as long as possible."

Mr McDonnell concludes: "The aim of our struggle is exactly the same as that of the miners—to protect jobs, services and our community."

Police hunt missing boy

Police in South Wales and Ireland are searching for a young boy who is believed to have been taken to Dublin by a *man who was* living with the child's mother in Neath, South Wales.

Matthew James Webber, who will be four on Monday, vanished from Cwmbach, Briton Ferry, with David William Evans, 38, a native of Pontypool. Mr Evans, who is unemployed has telephoned Matthew's mother from Dublin.

PMs' visits

The Belgian prime minister, Mr Wilfried Martens, is to visit Britain for talks with Mrs Thatcher on March 2, Downing Street announced yesterday. It was also announced that the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, Mr Michael Somare, is to visit Britain from April 22-25.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Heseltine's bylaw plan

BYLAWS will be drawn up on Monday to make it an offence for unauthorised persons to enter the cruise missile bases at Molesworth and Greenham Common, writes James Naughtie.

The Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, is using his powers under the Military Lands Act 1892 to make the *bylaws under which any unauthorised* person entering the defined area or *interfering* with Crown property—including the *security fences—faces a maximum* penalty of £100.

Spragget moves into clear lead

THE Commonwealth chess champion, Kevin Spraggett, continued to defy his British challengers at London docklands yesterday where another victory gave *him* a clear overall lead.

Spraggett defeated King, and has now six points. Next are Littlewood 5½, Orr (Ireland), Chandler, Hodgson, Nunn and Speelman all 5. There are four rounds to go.

Murder charge

A MAN has been charged with the murder of Adam Sedgwick, the son-in-law of the Marquess of Normanby. Desmond Kavanagh, 23, a labourer, of Aisgill Avenue, Fulham, will appear at West London magistrates court today.

Royal desk

A BIZARRE Victorian writing desk presented in 1870 to Princess Alexandra of Denmark, to celebrate her marriage to the Prince of Wales, was sold at Sotheby's yesterday for £31,900. It is made of ebony, rosewood, limewood, sandalwood, walnut, and tulipwood, and is decorated with ivory, mother-of-pearl, turquoise and *ormolu*.

Author's ashes

THE ashes of the author, J. B. Priestley, will go to tiny Hubberholme Church, Buckden, North Yorkshire. His widow, Mrs Jacquetta Priestley, of Kissing Tree House, Alveston, Warwickshire, said: "He loved the Dales and was particularly fond of the church."

Disaster flats 'need £2bn for repairs'

By Tom Sharratt

Local authority representatives *said yesterday that extra* investment of £2 billion over the next five years was needed to solve the "disaster" of the *deck-access flats system* built in the 1960s. This form of building makes use of mass-produced units fitted together *on site*.

More than 350 people, councillors, council officers, and tenants from all over the country attended a conference called by Manchester city council. Low-price deck-access blocks were widely encouraged by central government 20 years ago but with them came dampness, vermin, vandalism, and the fear of violence. The conference was held on Manchester's Hulme estate which has the city's biggest concentration of deck access.

The conference declared: "The government should accept that an extra £2 billion needs to be found to deal specifically with deck-access housing over the next five years and accept also that the only way local authorities and can meet this demand for investment is by central government providing a substantial proportion of the money in grant aid."

Sensitive management and an effective repair service were *essential*. "*Central* government should help with the extra running expenses now as well as with major capital investment projects."

Mr Ted Cantle, assistant secretary (housing) of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said that, in some cases, demolition and replacement was the only solution, but in others repair and modification *might* be acceptable.

"Either way we reckoned the average cost of these works will be about £10,000 per dwelling at today's prices. The total cost for all the different sorts of system-built housing in this country — 500,000 dwellings — will be at least £5 billion. We do not know the exact figure, but there may be 200,000 deck-access buildings nationally.

"Of all the system built housing, deck-access is by far *the worst for the tenants*. Because of the need to do something quickly I would say that at least £2 billion needs to be *spent on deck-access* estates over the next five years."

But deck-access was only one of several major housing problems. "Other sectors of the stock are in danger of irreversible deterioration and the Government must not try to solve the problem by diverting resources from one problem to another."

Mr Jeff Rooker, Labour's housing spokesman, said: "By any standards the politics of mass housing in the post war era has not helped the tenant. Central government virtually bribed local councils to use system-building techniques for *mass housing*.

"Now we have such large-scale failures in so short a time, it is an abuse of the relationship between central government and local government for resources to be withheld *from councils* trying to tackle the problem."

Two gaoled for stealing guide dog legacies

Two men cheated the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association of more than £95,000, by stealing money left in wills.

Maurice Gonsalves, aged 41, and Terrence Dallison, aged 38, were gaoled yesterday at Reading Crown Court

Gonsalves, of Sunningill, Berkshire, was sentenced to four years and Dallison, of Burghfield Common, Berkshire, to 2½ years. Both Pleaded guilty to six charges

Mr Julian Baughan, prosecuting, said *that Gonsalves*, from Guyana, started work as the association's legacy supervisor at its headquarters in Windsor in 1976.

Gonsalves's job involved dealing with the executors of people who left money to the association and sending receipts when the cheques arrived. He *obtained* six blank receipts by telling another member of staff he needed replacements for some he had *spilled coffee* on, and sent them out after keeping the cheques, said Mr Baughan. Meanwhile, Dallison opened a bank account at Reading in the association's name.

The six stolen cheques were for sums ranging between £7,950 and £34,611

Mr Baughan said all the money had been repaid or "frozen," and the only thing the society had lost was the interest — about £5,000.

Willis to boycott rally

By Patrick Wintour

MR Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, has rejected an invitation to speak at Sunday's demonstration in London in support of the miners. The Trafalgar Square afternoon rally is to be addressed by Mr Arthur Scargill, Mr Peter Heathfield, Mr Jim Mortimer, the chairman of the Labour Party, and a series of left of centre trade union general secretaries.

The invitation to speak had been extended by the march organisers before the row had blown up over the role of *Mr Willis* and the TUC liaison team.

Mr Willis rejected a series of requests for interviews yesterday

Challenge by solicitor holds up Yorkshire trial

By Malcolm Pithers

A committal hearing against 26 Yorkshire miners was unexpectedly delayed yesterday when a defence solicitor refused to accept the new style of committal proceedings, and said he wanted an opportunity to challenge evidence.

The case was adjourned by Pontefract magistrates court until *March 8* so that a date for a full length committal can be fixed as soon as possible.

The miners are charged with riotously assembling together to assault Mr Michael Fletcher, a working miner from Airedale, Castleford, last November. Some of the men also face charges of causing grievous bodily harm, actual bodily harm, and of having offensive weapons — pickaxe handles — in their possession. Charges of besetting and causing an affray have been withdrawn by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mr Alan Craig, who represents most of the miners, said that he would not accept a short form committal in which papers relating to the case are handed in instead of evidence being examined. If the men were to stand trial in a crown court on the evidence handed to the court so far, he wanted an opportunity to challenge it.

Three other solicitors in the case said they would have been in a position to proceed, and had expected the short form of committal proceedings to be dealt with yesterday.

Mr Ian Stamp, prosecuting, said that the DPP in London was anxious that the case should be heard as soon as possible.

Coal ship defiance by seamen

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

Seamen in the North-east yesterday took unofficial action to delay the departure of three ships laden with coal for power stations on the Thames.

Stephenson Clarke, the shipowner, had been hoping yesterday to break the coal blockade which has prevented the movement of the coal by ship since the miners' strike began, after winning a High Court injunction on Monday instructing the National Union of Seamen to withdraw official backing for the strike.

Members of the National Union of Seamen opened only three of the four hatches to allow coal to be loaded by dockers. As a result, the ships became unbalanced and unable to set sail. The ships are the Pulborough and Steyning, berthed at Blyth, and the Wilmington, docked at Jarrow.

On Thursday dockers — members of the Transport and General Workers on the Steyning and Wilmington and the National Union of Railwaymen on the Pulborough started to load after telling the shipowners they were prepared to break the blockade. The seamen responded by opening three of the hatches, but refusing to open the fourth.

The High Court ruled on Monday that the seamen were taking unlawful secondary action in support of the miners and instructed the NUS to withdraw offical backing for the strike. The NUS complied with the injunction, but the seamen decided to continue unofficial action.

The seamen's tactic of opening three of the four hatches ensured that the dockers get paid for their work. The tactic has been used frequently in the past by the NUS, but may only be a means of delaying departure of the ships.

OBITUARY

Hollywood actor

LOUIS HAYWARD, the Hollywood actor whose films included The Man in the Iron Mask, and Son of Monte Cristo, has died in hospital in Palm Springs, California, aged 75.

He spent the last year of his life fighting cancer, which he attributed to having smoked 60 cigarettes a day for more than 50 years. Hayward's marriages to the British actress, Ida Lupino, and society hostess, Margaret Morrow, ended in divorce. His third wife, June, survives him.

Catalonia poet

SALVADOR ESPRIU, Catalonia's best-known contemporary poet and playwright, died yesterday at the age of 72.

Woman in pub bombings case is released

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Mrs Annie Maguire, another convicted of explosive offences in 1974 at Guildford and Woolwich bombings the year released yesterday from

Mrs Maguire, aged a life sentence. A campaign today to clear her co-defendants Patrick Maguire, her husband Vincent and Pat Conlon, Sean Smyth, all already free after sentences of between 7 and 14 years

another of those convicted Conlon, a brother in prison in Ireland, who was also earlier this year released from Coldingley in Kent.

bombs in Woolwich killed six people and dozens of others.

and churches in Ireland have strong reservations about the convictions.

from a confession of four men charged guilty of the bombings learned to make explosives in "Aunt Annie

Prosecution case chromatography revealed their fingerprints from their kitchen glove Maguire's London were carried out apprentice who did not samples so no one carried out.

trial, the scientist the test was unreliable and has cast more

results could not been obtained by cigarette clearing material long been argued consistent with family heritage which they

Mr Maguire was British army and member of the Irish Republican

John Hume, the leader Social Democratic Party, has written asking that happened. "The case was completely that each of was completely incorrect with any criminal," he said.



Annie Maguire — campaign to prove innocence

Police hunt missing boy

South Wales searching for believed to Dublin to living with North Sea

Webber, James on Monday from Dublin

PMs' visits

prime minister Thatcher, is to with Dr Garret Fitzgerald, Taoiseach (Irish Prime Minister), in March. Downing Street announced yesterday that Mr Fitzgerald will be the guest of Mrs Thatcher at Chequers on Sunday March 3. Mr Fitzgerald will be accompanied by Mr Michael Sands, Irish Ambassador to Britain from April

OBITUARY

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Catalonia poet

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Doctors soften stance after leadership rifts over prescriptions curb

Rebuffed BMA ready to help with drug list

By Andrew Veitch, Medical Correspondent

THE British Medical Association is planning privately to cooperate with the Government in running the limited drug list, it emerged yesterday.

Despite the seemingly implacable opposition of the association's GP leaders, Dr Michael Wilson, and Dr John Marks, the BMA is understood to have let it be known in the Department of Health that it would be willing to be represented on the committee which will decide which new products should be included on the approved National Health Service drug list.

The move represents in part an acceptance of political realities. The Government has ridden roughshod over the BMA's objections to the list, and the association can do little about it.

Doctors could rebel by continuing to name banned drugs on NHS prescriptions, but chemists would refuse to dispense them because they would not be reimbursed by the Prescription Pricing Authority.

The BMA also needs to salvage something of its reputation as the most powerful pressure group in the country if its other, arguable more important, campaigns are to succeed.

Four concern hospital waiting lists, smoking, confidential treatment of under-16s, and nuclear war.

The BMA's hierarchy has not been united in its opposition to the list though, true, none likes the idea of politicians telling them what drugs to give patients, and none believes the Government's motives are anything other than financial.

But there the unanimity ends. Firstly it is difficult to find a clinical need in the seven therapeutic categories affected that is not met by the expanded list announced on Thursday, which coincides with the most thorough of the hospital limited lists.

Secondly, the list will oblige doctors to use generic names for drugs far more frequently. The BMA is officially in favour of prescribing by generic rather than brand name because it encourages doctors to think about the contents of the pills they're giving their patients.

The British National Formulary, the handbook published by the BMA and the Pharmaceutical Society, lists drugs by their generic names. Anyone who uses the BNF will have no difficulty operating the limited list, it is argued.

But many GPs still rely on the drug industry handbook, Mims. Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, was repeating what he has been told by senior pharmacologists when he described Mims recently as "no more than a list of branded products" showing "what the drug industry wants doctors to use." Mims does not mention generics.

Dr Wilson, chairman of the BMA's GP committee, said yesterday that operating the list would be "a nightmare." Drug firms spend millions on promoting catchy brand names and GPs by and large still use them.

Third, there is the question of cost. The BMA has no wish for its members to be seen as wasters of scarce NHS resources. The list might not save the £75 million a year claimed by Mr Fowler yesterday, but it will save tens of millions.

Mr Fowler was right when he claimed that savings would increase as more generic alternatives appeared on the market, and as more doctors realised the therapeutic benefits of prescribing generically.

To use Distalgesic as an example. From April 1 the brand name will be blacklisted. There will be no point in the manufacturers, the Lilly subsidiary Dista, advertising it by brand name unless the firm want to promote private prescriptions. The £10 million a year bill for branded Distalgesic alone should be cut considerably.

If a doctor wishes to issue an NHS prescription for the painkiller, he will have to write the generic name on the form. There is as yet no unbrandnded generic equivalent on the market. No one has considered it profitable to market one. The chemist will therefore dispense Distalgesic or one of two almost-equivalent products: Distalgesic at a trade price of around £2.40 a hundred; Cosalgesic at £1.84, or Dextrogesic at £1.09. The chemist will be reimbursed the price of the drug dispensed.

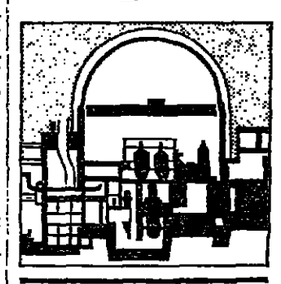
As soon as a generic becomes available (Dista, for example could stop stamping their brand name on their pills and undercut Dextrogesic on price) the Department of Health will negotiate tariff price with chemists.

The Prescription Pricing Authority will then reimburse the chemist on that drug tariff price, whichever version of the drug he dispenses. If the chemist buys cheaper, he makes a bigger profit—if he buys a dearer product he will make a loss.

There is some quiet satisfaction in the BMA hierarchy—and outspoken glee among senior pharmacologists—that a Government has for the first time come to terms with the fact that some firms are marketing drugs that no one needs, and may be positively harmful.

That the list will hit foreign-owned multinationals, and leave most of the big British firms virtually unscathed, is a bonus.

US-style reactors 'no use in making weapons'



SIZEWELL INQUIRY

By David Fairhall

The US style of pressurised-water (PWR) power-station which the Central Electricity Generating Board wants to build on the Suffolk coast would not be suitable for making plutonium for US weapons, the Sizewell inquiry was told yesterday.

Counsel for the board, Mr Michael FitzGerald QC, was answering charges by objectors, particularly CND, that civil plutonium has or will be diverted for military use in the United States. Some objectors also say there is a discrepancy in the Government's accounting of the British plutonium stockpile, and that the expansion of nuclear power would encourage the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The CEGB did not have a view on whether Britain should possess nuclear weapons, Mr FitzGerald said. But it did support the principle that the peaceful and military use of nuclear energy should be clearly separate.

The PWR was a poor choice for weapons production, he argued, because it produced relatively lower-grade material than Britain's gas-cooled Magnox reactors, and it would have to be shut for refuelling — or the clandestine removal of fuel elements — while the plutonium was still pure enough to make a bomb without further treatment.

Mr FitzGerald admitted that the board could not publicly produce evidence to refute the CND's assertion that several tons of plutonium was unaccounted for and was presumed by the campaign to have gone to the United States for military purposes.

Detailed analysis of the stockpile had been ruled out by the Department of Energy on security grounds, because it would enable the CND to revise and improve its estimates of how much had been sent to the United States under the US/UK defence agreement. Such accuracy "would be inconsistent with security requirements," according to Whitehall.

Mr FitzGerald referred to the assertion by Lord Hinton that the GEGB's chief Sizewell witness, Mr John Baker, had told "bloody lies." The assertion was tape-recorded by the CND before Lord Hinton's death last year (and later produced at the inquiry).

Mr FitzGerald said the board's former chairman was not in a position to know what happened to the civil plutonium sent to the US because he retired from the post before the export began.

Lord Hinton may have been confused, the board's counsel suggested, by the fact that plutonium from Britain's military reactors was sent to the US for bomb-making in the early 1960s.

Mr FitzGerald's assurances came at the end of a week when the CEGB has been winding up its safety case for the Sizewell PWR.

The inquiry resumes next Tuesday and is expected to end on March 7.

Kidney patient MP wins backing for bill

By Alan Travis

A CONSERVATIVE MP won Commons support yesterday for a system of hospital ombudsmen, after describing a catalogue of mistakes when he suffered kidney failure.

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, aged 54, the MP for Newbury, told BIPs of his ordeal when he went into hospital a year ago.

After one dialysis treatment he was "feeling ghastly" and just wanted to go back to bed, but the hospital staff insisted he should be taken to the X-ray department where, he said, he fainted in front of the screen.

On another occasion, the doctors insisted on giving him penicillin even though he had warned them he was sensitive to it. The result was a drug rash that kept him in hospital for a further five weeks.

Somebody also left a stitch in my leg when I had dialysis; it went septic and I suffered from septicaemia. To whom do I complain? Who will offer me compensation? Does anyone really care, or is this just one of the hazards of being in hospital?" Mr McNair-Wilson asked.

Most of the errors arose from a breakdown in communications among the National Health Service staff, yet there was little information easily available to anxious patients about how to complain, sickness benefit, visiting times, or church services, he said.

"While most nurses brought that sympathetic touch and gentleness, there were those who just hustled past and treated us as case histories," he added. "If I was not a son of a doctor, I would have been even more browbeaten by them than was the case."

He said that at no time during his period in hospital did he receive or expect gold-plated treatment because he was an MP.

Last September, as a result of his experiences, he drew up a patients' charter and was deluged with mail from victims of similar errors.

"In a case like my own I believe I have cause for compensation, but the present procedure is unbelievably drawn out and would probably take years and cost a fortune."

His private member's Hospital Complaints Procedures Bill, will oblige regional health authorities to establish and publicise a complaints procedure at each of their hospitals. It unexpectedly went through all its Commons stages unopposed yesterday and will now go to the Lords.

Mr John Patten, a junior health minister, said the bill would improve present procedure under which 19,000 written complaints were made in 1983, one in every 3,000 patients



Michael McNair-Wilson: hospital ordeal

NEWS IN BRIEF

Aids kills blood donor

THE donor whose blood was given to 41 people before he realised he was suffering from Aids died yesterday at Bournemouth's Royal National Hospital, writes Andrew Veitch.

The man, originally from the Hull area, died of meningitis and pneumonia as a result of the disease. He was later identified as Mr Chris Egner, aged 27, who had been living in Bournemouth before going into hospital.

He gave four donations—on the South Coast, Birmingham, and in Yorkshire—before being admitted to hospital in October. One donation was used to make the clotting agent, Factor 8 and was given to 38 haemophiliacs before being withdrawn.

A second was given to a pregnant mother in Birmingham, and two more went to patients in Bournemouth. Antibodies to the Aids virus were later found in the mother and her newborn baby, but none of the patients has since developed Aids.

One, 78-year-old Mr Sidney Reuter from Cosham, near Portsmouth, who was being treated for cancer, when he was given the donor's blood, has since died of pneumonia. Aids has been ruled out as a contributory cause of death.

British Airways last night would not comment on reports that three of their stewards had died of the disease.

MEP 'knows who killed Chapman'



THE MEP Mr Richard Cottrell, claimed yesterday that he knows the identity of the killer of BBC reporter, Ann Chapman, (above) who was murdered in Greece 14 years ago. "I now know who killed Ann, why they killed her, where and at what time they killed her," he said in Bath, Avon.

His proposal that an independent investigator look again at the case was being studied by the Greek Justice Minister, Professor George Manghakis, he said.

Mr Cottrell, is the MEP for Bristol, and the European Parliament last year supported his view that Miss Chapman was killed by the authorities, and not a prison guard Nicholas Moundis, who spent 10 years in gaol after conviction of her manslaughter.

Seamen's strike delays ferries

THOUSANDS of passenger were delayed yesterday as seamen staged a 24-hour stoppage at Felixstowe, Suffolk. Townsend Thoresen had to cancel two ferries to Zeebrugge, while two freight ships bound for Rotterdam and Europort also remained idle.

Members of the National Union of Seamen were backing a national protest against the closure of the naval hospital, HMS Dreadnought, at Greenwich, London.

Race complaint rejected

THE COLOUR of gangs of black youths allegedly responsible for crimes on a Brixton estate, was relevant to a London Evening Standard report on a telephone vigilante group set up to protect families, the Press Council ruled yesterday.

The council rejected a complaint by Mr R. Borzello, of Islington, north London, who complained it was improper of the newspaper to report the colour of alleged gang members where this had no relevance to the story, and thus pandered to racist feelings.

Farmers give £1.8m in grain

FARMERS have donated grain worth more than £1.8 million to the Ethiopian famine appeal, and the figure is expected to reach £2 million, the organiser, Mr Oliver Walston, said yesterday.

More than 9,000 tonnes have been shipped to Ethiopia and a 2,750-tonne cargo will leave on Monday.

Tug of love bill to help parents

By Malcolm Dean

A bill which will help parents recover "tug-of-love" children who have been taken overseas illegally was published yesterday by the Lord Chancellor.

The Child Abduction and Custody Bill will enable the government to ratify both the 1980 Hague Convention and a 1980 European Convention on child abduction.

After ratification later this year, British parents will be able to use a new procedure in the contracting states

The Foreign Office has files on about 150 British children who have been taken abroad illegally, usually by one of the parents. There are up to another 200 children, who are brought illegally to Britain each year from foreign states.

France, Portugal and Switzerland have ratified both conventions and Spain and Luxembourg have ratified the European Convention, which is expected to attract support from another 10 member states of the Council of Europe. Canada has ratified the Hague convention and the US and Australia are due to follow suit.

Each contracting state sets up a central authority to administer applications from overseas.

The Hague convention is likely to be more attractive to British parents because the grounds on which an application can be refused by a foreign state are much more narrow.

The Child Abduction Act, which was passed last October, was designed to provide criminal sanctions against people who take children abroad without permission.

The new bill will provide a civil procedure for the return of the children.

A third bill will be needed to rectify the problems outlined in a joint report last month from the Law Commission and Scottish Law Commission of the difficulties of enforcing and recognising custody orders made in separate parts of the United Kingdom.



ATHLETIC PILGRIM: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, yesterday handed letters for the Pope in Rome, for Pope Shenouda (Coptic Orthodox Patriarch in Cairo), and for the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem to Robert Block, aged 23, an ordinand in the Canterbury diocese. He leaves England next Thursday to run to Italy, Egypt and Israel as part of his diocesan effort for International Youth Year
Picture by Garry Weaser

Faulty phone blamed for crash

From Joe Joyce in Dublin

Faulty railway telephone and radio systems were blamed yesterday by an official inquiry for an Irish train crash in which seven people died and 55 were injured in August 1983.

Those who died were on a train going from Tralee to Dublin. It ran out of fuel at Cherryville junction, County Kildare, and the train from Galway crashed into the back of it.

The inquiry exonerated the driver of the Galway train, Mr Peter Brady, who was earlier acquitted in court of manslaughter.

Mr Brady had stopped at a danger signal and tried to contact the controller but a railside telephone was not working properly. He passed the signal slowly in accordance with railway regulations but collided with the stationary train a short time later.

The inquiry found that the telephone was fitted with a timer which limited the duration of calls and that a radio on board the train was not serviceable.

The driver and the signalman in Dublin had tried unsuccessfully to contact each other by radio. The other train did not have a radio.

The report by a railway inspector, Mr J. V. Feehan, noted that timber bodied coaches were used on the Tralee train although an inquiry into an earlier rail accident had recommended that their use be restricted on mainline trains.

His report recommended rule changes to forbid drivers passing danger signals unless they communicate with a signalman. It also proposed that there be a communication system between drivers and guards on passenger trains.

CIE, the Irish public transport company, has already begun introducing radios linking all locomotives with the control centre in Dublin.

Hard line on software thieves

By Alan Travis

Gaol sentences of up to two years may be imposed on computer software pirates if a private member's bill to extend copyright to computer programs becomes law later this year.

Mr William Powell's Copyright (Computer Software) Amendment Bill received an unopposed second reading in the Commons yesterday. It got a warm welcome from the Government which intends to introduce tougher penalties for a wide range of copyright offences.

Mr Powell, the Conservative MP for Corby, told MPs that the present law was pathetically inadequate to cope with the activities of the software pirates who cost the industry an estimated £150 million a year.

The impact of the pirates had ensured a decline in the British share of the world market. A recent Aston University survey showed that of 27 computer software companies looked at three years ago, 10 had since gone into liquidation because of piracy.

"My bill is designed to make life as difficult as possible for those who copy pirated works and then sell them at a fraction of the proper cost," said Mr Powell.

His bill extends the 1956 Copyright Act to cover computer programs. It provides that anyone caught selling, exhibiting or in possession of pirated software faces fines of up to £2,000 and up to two months' imprisonment. The manufacture, distribution or importing of unauthorised copies would carry an unlimited fine or up to two years' imprisonment.

Extending the act to videos two years ago is estimated to have stopped about two thirds of video piracy.

Electricians warn TUC over expulsion threat

By John Ardill, Labour Correspondent

The electricians' union said yesterday that it was prepared to take the TUC to court over expulsion moves for accepting government funding of election ballots. The threat from the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union general secretary, Mr Eric Hammond, was coupled with a warning that members of other trade unions might switch to the EETPU if the union was thrown out of the movement.

The electricians and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers have both applied for balloting funds under the 1980 Employment Act, in breach of TUC policy. The TUC will begin disciplinary proceedings as soon as any money is received.

Writing today in his union's journal Contact, Mr Hammond says the TUC is following a "perilous road" which courts disaster. The EETPU executive which was unanimous in deciding there were no good reasons in principle or practice to continue the "futile boycott" of state funds will not be "cajoled, intimidated or bullied into submission."

Mr Hammond agrees with some of his TUC critics that the real issue between them is not the money, the legislation or the policy but the authority of the general council. "I told the TUC candidly and openly that our members elected our executive council to be responsible for the finance and government of the EETPU — not the general council.



Eric Hammond: "We won't be bullied."

Mr Hammond says some of his critics are hypocritical in that their own unions do not, unlike EETPU, elect their executives by secret postal ballot.

He says it is "ironic that those who call for fidelity to TUC rules are often those who also claim that the laws of the land, the rules of our society, can properly be defied or ignored. "And he says the TUC has not taken action over some 80 closed shop ballots, involving 70 unions, also held in breach of its instructions.

Mr Hammond says the union would encounter difficulties if expelled, but adds: "The EETPU has great attraction today for rank-and-file trade unionists who see it as a haven of common sense and stability in a weird and wonderful trade union world. Their views could well find physical expression in many members of other organisations seeking EETPU membership."

Holidays safe, says Morocco

By Martin Wainwright

THE Moroccan Government has sent a commission of inquiry to Agadir, the seaside resort where more than 100 British holidaymakers were turned away by local hoteliers this week. The authorities in Rabat have blamed hotel-keepers for panicking at the prospect of a visit by King Hassan to celebrate national day.

Several British tour firms, including the two biggest package operators, Thomson Holidays and Intasun, were told by hotels that their rooms had been requisitioned by the royal party. The Moroccan minister of tourism, Mr Azzeddine Guessous, denied this yesterday and said that all holiday bookings would be met.

The Moroccan national tourist office in London commented: "No instructions were given by the Moroccan authorities to requisition any hotel rooms and allocations taken by the tour operators will be respected."

The tour operators diverted more than 100 holidaymakers to the inland city of Marrakesh on Thursday and the Moroccan guarantee conflicts with representatives' reports of the situation in Agadir.

The next regular batch of flights to the resort, which tends to be fully-booked at this time of year, leaves next Thursday when the companies hope the situation will be clearer.

16 years for hooded rapist

A hooded rapist who terrorised women in a bedsit area of Oxford was gaoled for 16 years yesterday. Kevin Kearsley, aged 26, had prowled around the district to the east of the city in the early hours on 30 or 40 occasions, Northampton Crown Court was told.

Kearsley, unemployed, of Bullingdon Road, Oxford, admitted one charge of rape, one of indecent assault and one of burglary, all in Oxford last May.

Mr Justice Otton said Kearsley had indulged in "a considerable degree of depravity." Although he had shown contrition, psychiatric reports showed he was fully responsible for his actions.

He was gaoled for 12 years for rape, two years for the indecent assault and two years for the burglary and other offences. All the sentences will run consecutively.

After raping a 47-year-old woman, Kearsley told his victim he would send her a red rose when he cashed his dole cheque, Mr Rumfitt said. Kearsley was wearing a hat and scarf over his face when he confronted the woman who feared he would murder her.

Shortly before the rape, he was wearing a balaclava with eye slits when he carried out "a particularly revolting indecent assault," on a woman in her 30s, Mr Rumfitt said.

Kearsley told police: "My sex life was virtually non-existent: this wouldn't have happened otherwise."

Declaration for judge

Lord Justice Stephenson, who retired yesterday after 22 years as a judge, was described by a QC in the Appeal Court as "the perfect gentleman in everything you have done." Mr Patrick Back, QC, was one of three QCs who paid tribute to the 74-year-old Lord Justice



Lord Justice Stephenson

Simpler house buying under conveyancing bill

A land registration bill, which was introduced in the Lords by the Lord Chancellor yesterday, will make conveyancing simpler but reduce the rights of cohabitees. The purpose of the short bill is to reduce the difficulty and expense of conveyancing by reducing the inquiries which buyers need to make

Under the present system, solicitors have to establish whether any person in occupation, other than the legal estate owner or proprietor, holds rights in the property. Under the new procedure which is due to come into effect on January 1, 1986, buyers will only have to make inquiries about the spouse of a sole proprietor.

A cohabitee with a registered interest in the property will not be affected but the rights of a live-in girl friend, who has not registered any interest but has contributed to the upkeep and rehabilitation of a house could be ignored. Other people who could suffer could be brothers or parent-in-laws with an interest in the house.

The bill is a response to a House of Lords judgment in 1981 which ruled that purchasers had to investigate the rights of all occupiers of a home in any domestic conveyancing. The government estimate these searches cost home buyers some £1 million a year.

Grimaldi may find a place in limelight

By Martin Wainwright

CLOWNS and actors intend to rescue the tombstone of Joseph Grimaldi from a park shed and make it the centrepiece of a new memorial to the man who once sent London theatre audiences wild.

Grimaldi is generally seen as the finest clown in history, attracting enormous audiences to pantomimes at Drury Lane and Sadler's Wells during his heyday in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

"As a clown he is held to have had no equal," says the Dictionary of National Biography. "His grimace was inexpressibly mirth-moving; his singing of Tippety Witchet, Hot Codlins and other similar ditties, roused the wildest enthusiasm, and with him the days of genuine pantomime drollery are held to have expired."

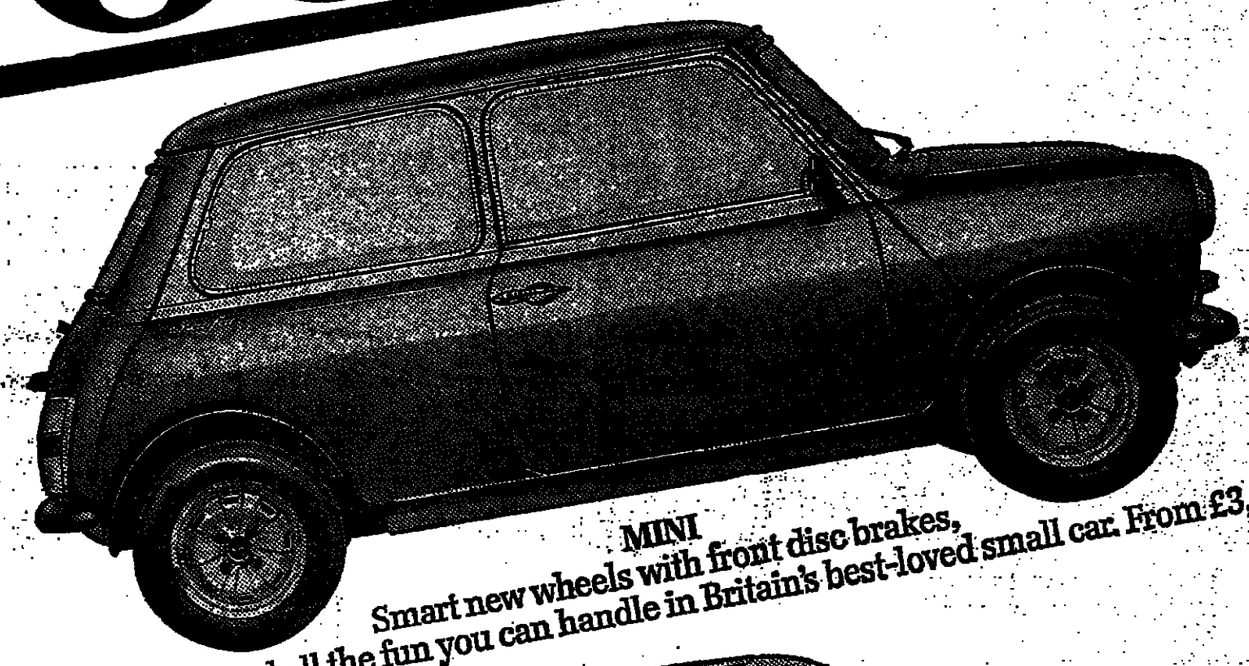
But Grimaldi never became rich, thanks to foolish or unlucky investments, and his funeral in 1837 was a modest affair. He was buried at St James's in Pentonville Road, north London, the setting for the annual clowns' service until the church was demolished 18 months ago.

The demolition left Grimaldi's tombstone dangerously exposed and it was moved to a graveyard shed for safekeeping. It shares its humble quarters with a pile of bricks, a bucket, and an elderly copy of the Daily Mirror.

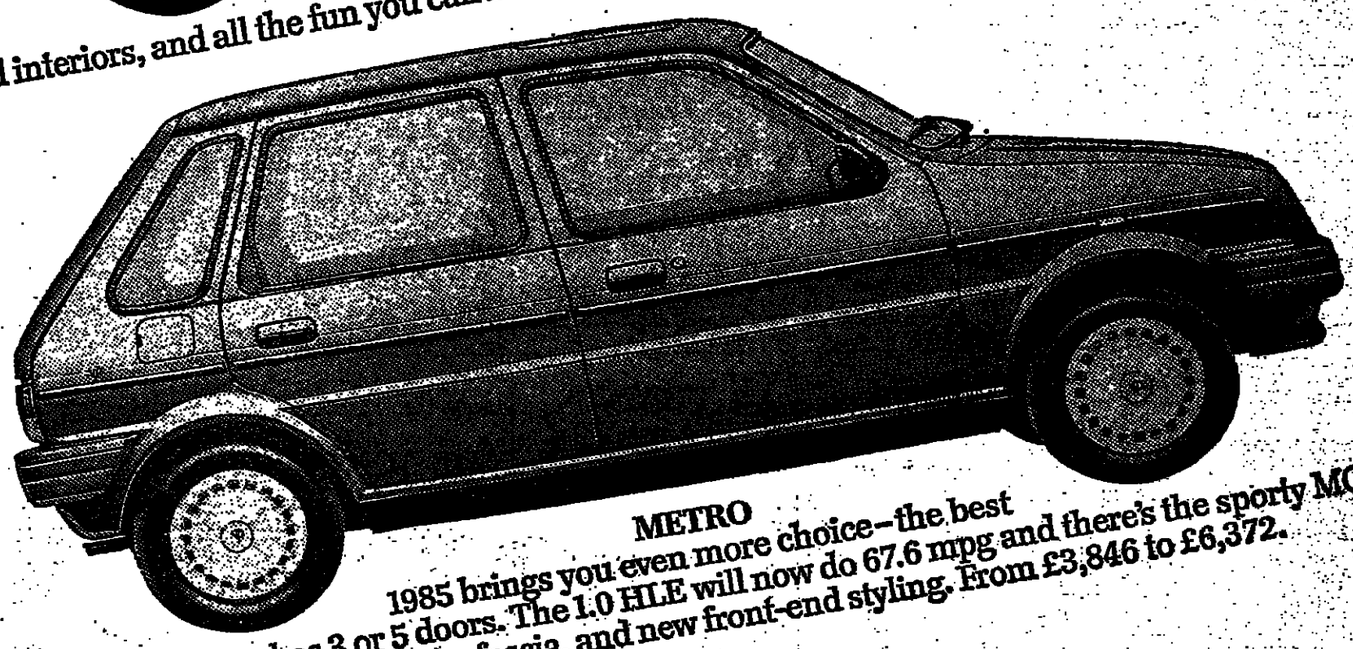
The church site is up for sale with planning permission for 14,000 square feet of office space, but the development will not affect the graveyard, which Islington has adopted as a park. The actors' union, Equity, supported by the Clowns' Association, has written to the council asking for the park to be dedicated to Grimaldi.

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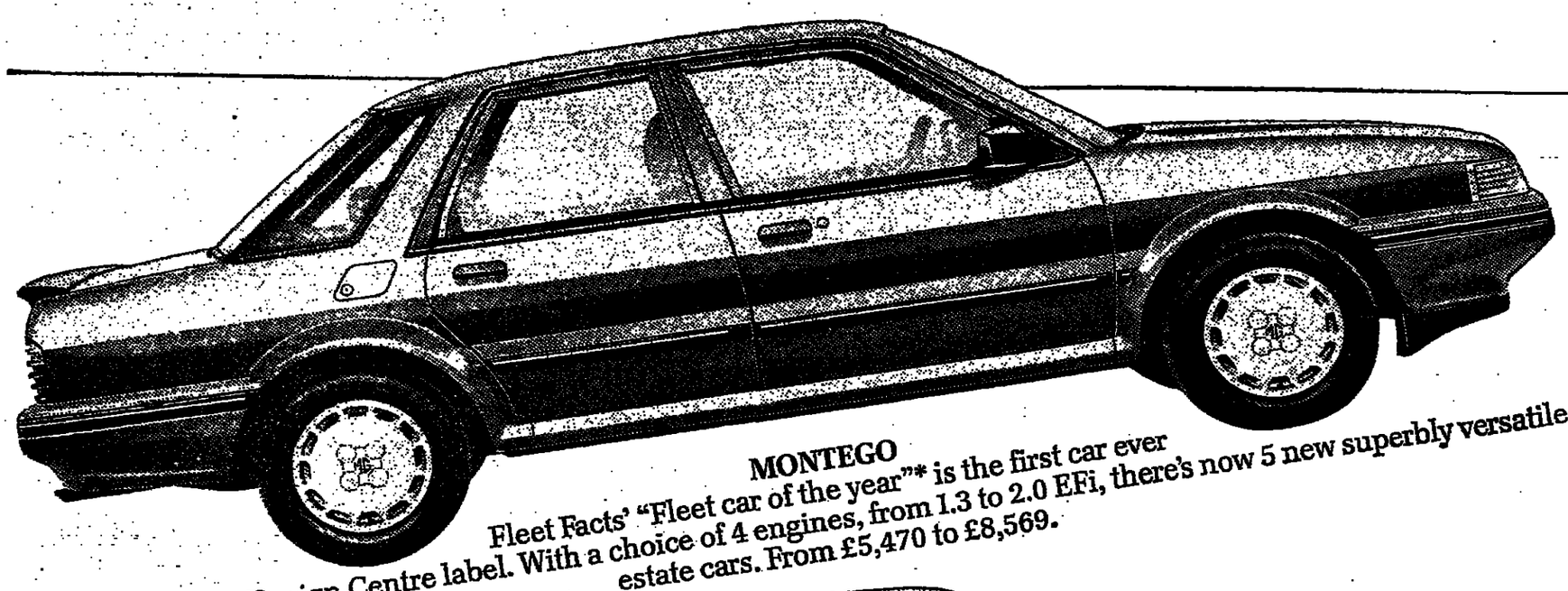
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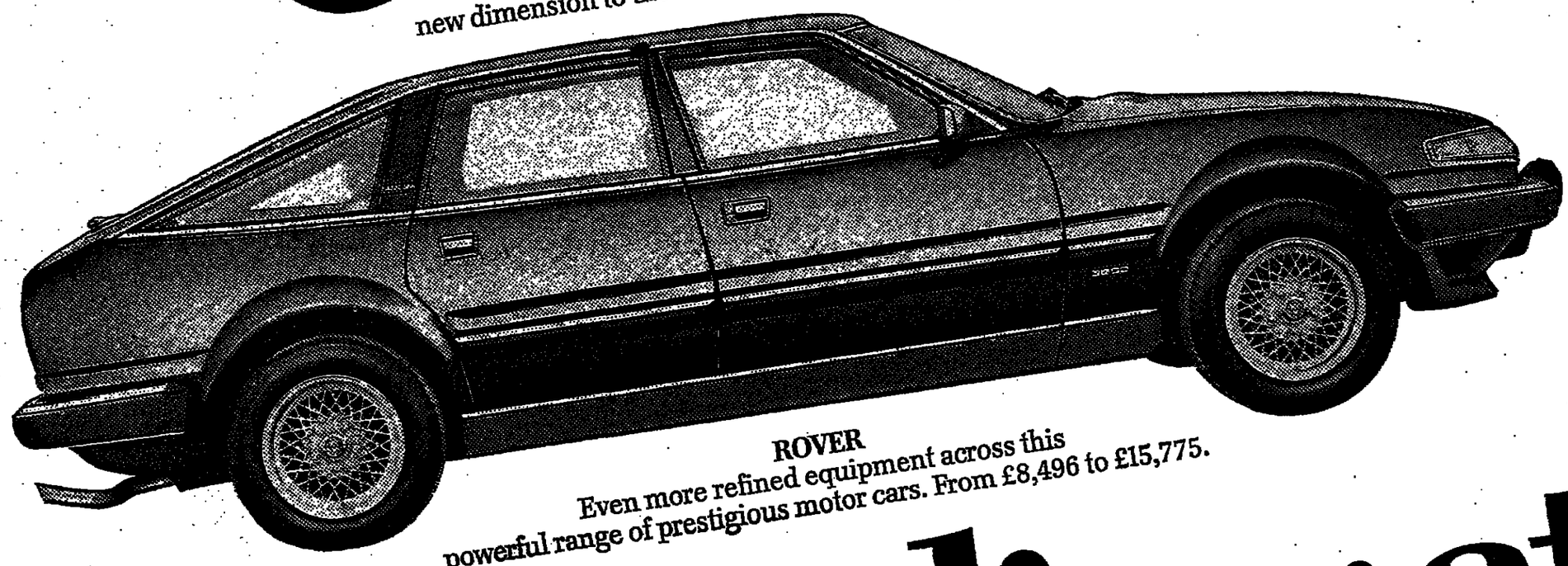
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CHALLENGE '85

From Austin Rover

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Claim of an unrelenting Soviet build-up 'not based on fact'

Soviet arms outlay lower than claimed, says CIA

From Don Oberdorfer in Washington

Soviet defence spending has been growing at about 2 per cent a year since 1976, a slower rate than earlier believed and a much slower rate than overall US defence outlays, according to a CIA report.

In the continuing intelligence dispute, the CIA estimate of Soviet spending also conflicts with a much higher *Defence Department estimate* last June and with various Pentagon statements citing an unrelenting Soviet build-up as the justification for US military increases.

Senator William Proxmire, the leading Democrat on the Joint Economic subcommittee that released the CIA estimate, said: "It is time for Washington to take official notice that *Soviet military procurement* has been stagnant for the past seven years and to stop acting like nothing has changed."

"Before 1976, growth in *total (Soviet) defence spending* had averaged about 4 to 5 per cent per year; after 1976, the rate of increase in spending dropped appreciably, to about *2 per cent a year*," Mr Robert Gates, the CIA's deputy director for intelligence, testified to the International Trade, Finance and Security Economics subcommittee in a secret session last November 21.

The CIA testimony, which has since been declassified for public release, said that the "main source" of the slowdown in Soviet military growth was "a stagnation in spending for military procurement since 1976."

This appeared to conflict directly with a *Pentagon report* last June, which said that Soviet procurement of large weapons systems had increased between 5 and 10 per cent *from* 1982 to 1983, on the basis of preliminary findings by the Defence Intelligence Agency. The Pentagon also reported an overall Soviet military spending increase of 3 to 4 per cent during the 1982-3 period.

A Defence Department official testified before the same subcommittee last month on the Pentagon view of the Soviet military build-up. This testimony has not been cleared for public release, and neither the panel nor the Pentagon would discuss it in detail.

A Defence Department official familiar with the studies said that "nothing has occurred (since last June) to make us want to change" the estimate.

A large-scale revision of the CIA's Soviet military spending estimates, first released in 1983, caused a big controversy between the civilian and military intelligence agencies.

Some of the differences between estimates of the intelligence agencies, specialists said, may flow from differences in their methods of estimating Soviet expenditures.

Until two years ago, the CIA had said that Soviet military spending had been rising *steadily since 1965 at an* annual rate of 4 to 5 per cent, measured in constant 1970 roubles. In 1983, the CIA shifted to an estimate of about 2 per cent annual growth on the same basis for the post-1976 era. This estimate was confirmed and carried forward through 1983 in the testimony made public on Thursday.—Washington Post.

THE Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr David Lange, yesterday said that he had told the Soviet Union to stop meddling in his country's affairs through biased press reporting. Mr Lange said that the Soviet ambassador, Mr Vladimir Rykou, had been told that despite a ban on US nuclear warships, "New Zealand is an unshakeable member of the Western alliance and that our policies are not directed at any of our traditional friends."—AP.

Call to defend Communist gains

Ustinov's replacement makes first important policy speech

Moscow: Marshal Sergei *Sokolov, the Soviet Defence* Minister who replaced the late Dmitri Ustinov two months ago, called yesterday for increased vigilance in defence of Communist gains.

Marshal Sokolov made his first important public pronouncement since his appointment in an article in the Communist Party daily, Pravda, in which he attacked US plans for developing a space-based, anti-missile defence system but *said that Moscow was ready* for business-like arms control talks.

"The complicated present-day international situation, which is shaped through the fault of reactionary imperialist circles, necessitates a heightening of the Soviet people's vigilance and of their readiness to rise, arms in hand, at any time in defence of Socialist gains," he wrote.

"The United States and its Nato allies do not abandon attempts to ensure military superiority over the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries."

Marshal Sokolov, aged 73, whose appointment was announced on December 22, has been a professional soldier for more than 50 years. He has often dealt with foreign countries seeking to buy Soviet arms.

The marshal does not, however, have the same long background in civilian politics as Marshal Ustinov, who before *his death* at the age of 76, attained the upper levels of the ruling Politburo.

Referring to President Reagan's Star Wars research plans, Marshal Sokolov *said*: "The Soviet Union is strongly opposed to the spread of the arms race to outer space, but not because it cannot reciprocate these plans of Washington." — Reuter.

Martin Walker adds: The new chief of the Soviet general staff, Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, has praised the wartime leadership of Stalin. *Writing in the latest issue of* Kommunist, the chief of staff says that Stalin's personal leadership was "a key component of the superiority of Soviet military science."

This is the most important sign so far of Stalin's accelerating rehabilitation, evidently timed to reach is peak in May for the 40th anniversary of VE Day.

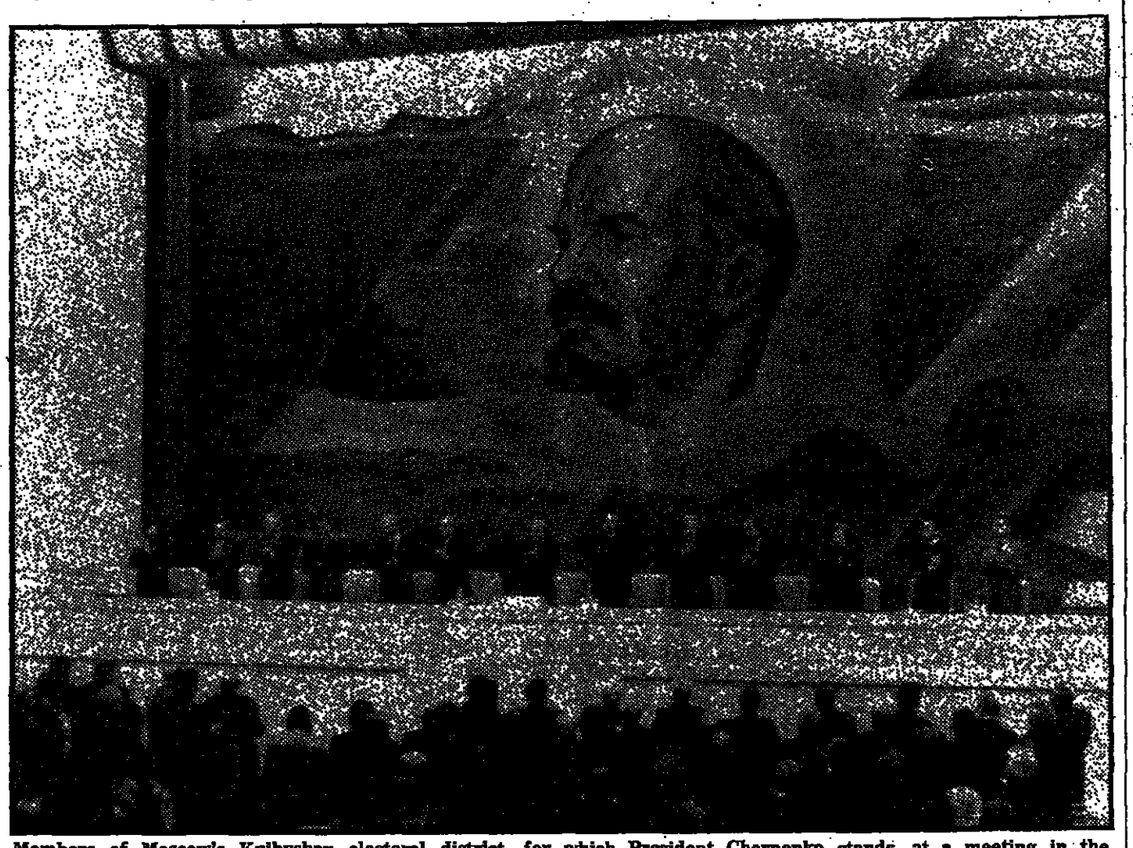
Kommunist has also printed a series of wartime documents, including a number of telegrams and dispatches signed by Stalin and published for the first time.

"One of the major features that characterised Soviet military art during the great patriotic war was the firm and creative management of the strategic activities of our troops and navy by the supreme HQ, and by the commander-in-chief, Joseph Stalin, in person," Marshal Akhromeyev writes.

"The successful execution of many of our battles was made possible only by the intensive work and great commanding talent at headquarters," he adds

Khrushchev's campaign of "de-Stalinisation" after 1956 exposed Stalin's shortcomings as a war leader. In particular, Khrushchev claimed that Stalin had gone into a state of shock during the first weeks of the German invasion, and failed to provide any effective leadership at all. Marshal Zhukov, a well-known battlefield commander, criticised Stalin in his memoirs for interfering even in small-scale military operations.

This has all changed and a petition from the Volgograd War Veterans Association, asking that their city be restored to its old wartime name of Stalingrad, is still being considered by the Central Committee. Marshal Akhromeyev's article makes it much more likely that the name of Stalingrad will soon reappear on Soviet maps.



Members of Moscow's Kuibyshev electoral district, for which President Chernenko stands, at a meeting in the Kremlin yesterday. The elections for the Supreme Soviet are due to take place tomorrow

Bootless Russians losing cold war

From Martin Walker in Moscow

WITH THE Soviet Union gripped by one of the fiercest winters for years, a crisis has emerged in one of the country's main defences against the cold. There is a valenki shortage.

Valenki are the huge boots made of pressed felt that have kept Russian feet warm since long before the days of Peter the Great. In Moscow, they are usually to be seen on the feet of traffic policemen and they are standard issue in the Red Army. But the supply is running out.

There are none to be had in the Siberian cities of Novosibirsk and Irkutsk, where temperatures have fallen to almost 50 C below, according to Komsomolskaya Pravda. Although a new pair of *valenki in* the state shops should cost about £15, the black market price for valenki is £50 in Vladimir, and up to £120 in the Siberian city of Omsk.

Eighty per cent of the country's valenki are produced by a single organisation, Rosvalprom, which has acknowledged it can meet less than half of the demand from th state retail system. To meet the demand, the long-lost art of homemade valenki has undergone a remarkable revival, spurred by the high prices the boots can fetch.

The psychological impact of a valenki shortage upon *the Russian mind could* hardly be exaggerated. They are quintessentially Russian, as much a part of the Russian psyche as the kilt is of *the Scots. One folk song* has a chorus with a girl telling her admirers: "Don't bother with presents and flowers, just buy me some valenki."

They are also the most effective winter footwear yet invented. They look big and clumsy, reaching up the knees, but they are remarkably light to wear. Naturally, they are very, very warm. With this year's winter bringing devastating blizzards as far south as Armenia, demand has never been so high.

"You might have heard stories of the poor life of people in the distant past, when they were so poor that they could afford only one pair of valenki for the whole family," a woman from Siberia wrote to Komsomolskaya Pravda yesterday. "We are no longer poor, but the valenki shortage has not changed. the only person in our family with valenki is grandmother. Our eight-year-old son has to wear them to go out, even though they are twice too big. We have been trying to buy some since August, trying city after city in Siberia, but there are no valenki."

"What if we carry out an unusual experiment?" Komsomolskaya Pravda suggests. "What if we asked the Ministry of Light Industry to pay for all the sick leave of people who caught colds and flu in Siberia? And then use the money received to make valenki for whoever needs them."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Reagan in US bases mix-up

PRESIDENT Reagan yesterday denied that the US is preparing plans for a withdrawal of military bases from Greece because of growing anti-Americanism there.

A few hours before Mr Reagan made his denial, two of his top officials told a congressional hearing that the Administration was exploring alternative Mediterranean locations for the bases. It was not clear how the confusion arose —Reuter.

Cent back

A man who delivered two 35-gallon drums of pennies to his ex-wife was ordered by a Stamford, Connecticut *judge to* take the pennies back and write her a cheque. Frank Colandro, aged 26, who had delivered the pennies as the first payment in a divorce settlement, was told they were not legal tender. "Why do they make them if you can't pay anybody off with them?" he asked. — AP.

Spiked

THE bayonet, used on battlefields for centuries, *can no* longer be considered a weapon of war, Italy's Supreme Court ruled yesterday. It rejected prosecution *demands that a man* found in possession of a bayonet should receive the severest penalties for illegal possession of "battlefield *weapons*," on the grounds that the bayonet is obsolete. — Reuter.

Shorter ballot

VOTING will be a little easier than expected next month in the south Indian electoral district of Belgaum. The field of candidates has been reduced from 301 to five. A local writers' group which had nominated 296 of its members to publicise accusations *about* electoral fraud, yesterday pulled all its candidates out of the race. — Reuter.

Rebel raid

TWO guerrillas were shot dead and more than 1,000 people detained in Lima on Thursday night after Shining Path rebels made their biggest attack on the Peruvian capital this year. Police said the Maoist group bombed four political party offices, a courthouse and two banks. — Reuter.

Killer dogs

A PACK of stray dogs savaged and killed a 54-year-old Yugoslav factory worker in a Belgrade suburb on Thursday night. Officials said that the rising cost of keeping pets had forced many owners to abandon their dogs during the exceptionally cold winter this year, *Barney Petrovic reports.*

Hurt in fall

AN Austrian who tried to commit suicide by jumping 90 feet from the Moenschberg cliff in central Salzburg landed on a 79-year-old West German tourist walking below. Stefan Fuchs, aged 27, and Hans Hofmeister from Coburg, both suffered serious head injuries. — Reuter.

Bomb fears

HALF a ton of explosives, detonators and fuse wire were stolen from quarries in Luxembourg this week. Police said yesterday it was *too early to say* whether it was simple theft or connected with a recent spate of guerrilla attacks directed mostly at Nato-related targets *across Western Europe.* — Reuter.

Moving right

YOUNG West *Germans* are becoming increasingly conservative in their political views, according to an opinion poll published yesterday. The poll *by the Emnid* Institute, said 38 per cent of first-time voters would back the Conservative CDU and its Bavarian partner, the CSU, while the *Social Democrats* would take 31 per cent and the Greens 29 per cent. — Reuter.

Poll delay

BANGLADESH'S election commission yesterday postponed the date for filing nomination papers for the parliamentary polls due on February 24, leaving little chance that the election will be held on schedule. No new date has been announced. — AP.

Air crash

AN AIR MALI Antonov-24 crashed shortly after takeoff from Timbuktu yesterday, killing 50 of the 51 people aboard, officials at the airline's headquarters in Bamako said. Company officials said there were a dozen foreigners aboard the plane, but their *nationalities were not* revealed. AP.

Turks reject Bulgarian denial of harassment

Ankara: Turkey has rejected a Bulgarian denial that its ethnic Turkish minority is being pressured into adopting Bulgarian names.

The Bulgarian ambassador, Mr Arguir Konstantinov was called to the Foreign Ministry yesterday and handed a Note calling for direct talks on the issue between the two countries' foreign ministers.

In its first reference to reports that Turks in Bulgaria had been killed or injured in a campaign to force them to adopt new names, the Ankara Government said it had also received information on the subject.

"Despite the denial of the Bulgarian authorities, the *information* they have given on this subject far from satisfies the Turkish government," it said.

A western diplomat in Ankara *also said* that his country had "reasonably firm" reports that 200 people who resisted the change had been killed.

The Ankara statement is the *government's strongest* after more than a month of press reports of harassment of Turks in Bulgaria and mounting pressure from relatives in Turkey.

France clarifies Italian terror issue

From Campbell Page in Paris

President Mitterrand has clarified his attitude to the controversial presence in France of Italian fugitives from justice.

At a joint press conference with the Italian Prime Minister, Mr Craxi in Paris yesterday, the French leader said Italian terrorists guilty of violent crimes or of complicity in such crimes would be extradited subject to the approval of the French courts.

Those who had not taken a direct part in crimes of violence *would not be sent back* to Italy. Many had made a clean break with terrorism and had applied for French citizenship, he added.

In recent months, particularly after the murder of a French general in January and fears about a new wave of anti-Nato terrorism in Western Europe, Italian ministers have criticised France's readiness to give refuge to foreign terrorists, including 300 Italians. Mr Giovanni Spadolini, the Defence Minister, was especially scathing about terrorists receiving shelter in France and capable of striking against the whole of Europe.

Mr Craxi, who said recently, that Italy was taking steps to secure the extradition of 120 Italian terrorists from France, yesterday gave France a certificate of good conduct. "I do not think that France can be accused of any kind of slackness with regard to terrorism. French commitment to the struggle against terrorism is indisputable."

President Mitterrand reaffirmed French determination to fight terrorism and denied that France had become a refuge for terrorists.

The French constitution says that "every person persecuted for his actions on behalf of liberty has the right of asylum on the territory of the Republic." France is proud of its long tradition of welcoming political exiles and is now host to 164,000. However, as in the *case of the Basque presence in* France, the tradition can embarrass bilateral relations and produce a change in the French attitude.

Former Italian terrorists in France are worried by recent exchanges between Rome and Paris and by the detention this month of two men. Mr Sergio Tornaghi was arrested after being kept under observation by the French authorities, while Mr Massimo Sandrini was arrested in an ordinary police check. Both might be extradited.

● Cape Verde's Prime Minister, Mr Pedro Pires, said yesterday that his Government was willing to accept Basque guerrillas deported from France but not for payment. *He was speaking after talks* with the Spanish Prime Minister, Mr Gonzales on the second day of an official visit to Spain.

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13m jobless in EEC

From Derek Brown in Brussels

Unemployment in the EEC has risen to a record 13.7 mil*lion people, or nearly 12 per* cent of the working population.

Figures released yesterday show a rise of nearly 570,000 unemployed in January, compared with December. The rise, which the statistical office, Eurostat, says cannot be explained solely by severe weather, follows several months of falling or stable unemployment figures.

The jobless rise since last month was greatest in West Germany (up 12.7 per cent), Denmark (up 12.2 per cent), Luxembourg (up 6.9 per cent), and the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic (up 3.8 per cent).

Unemployment among young people rose only slightly in the month, but at the end of De*cember more than 5 million* people under 25 years old were out of work. The proportion of young unemployed stood at 37.4 per cent of the *total.*

Britain still has the highest total of unemployed, with 3,341,000 out of work. In percentage terms, British unemployment is topped by Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, and the Irish Republic.

The comparitive unemployment figures are:

	'000s	%
W. Germany	2,619	9.7
France	2,553	11.2
Italy	3,132	13.7
Netherlands	804	14.1
Belgium	619	15.0
Luxembourg	3	1.9
Britain	3,342	12.6
Ireland	234	18.1
Denmark	298	11
Greece	113	3.0
Total EEC	13,718	11.8

Liberals struggle for survival as Genscher goes his own way

From Anna Tomforde in Bonn.

WHEN THE Foreign Minister, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, steps down as leader of the *liberal Free Democratic Party* (FDP) today after almost 11 years at its helm, he will leave a party struggling for survival and desperate to define its place in the pattern of West German politics.

Mr Genscher, a 57-year-old lawyer with a reputation as one of the most astute tactitions on the Bonn political scene, has made clear that he plans to extend his record as the West's longest-serving Foreign Minister beyond the 1987 general election. He will also remain Vice-Chancellor in Dr Kohl's conservative - liberal coalition.

But with his departure as FDP chairman Mr Genscher is also partly paying the price for switching his allegiance from the Social Democrats to the CDU in 1982, that decision left the Liberals — with a membership of 70,000 — deeply split and contributed to their decline at the polls.

The FDP, under its designated new leader, the Economics Minister, Mr Martin Bangemann, will have to strive to define its position: a choice has to be made between representing *big business* and fulfilling a role as the liberal custodian of individual rights.

Mr Bangemann, aged 50 and physically a heavyweight is still smarting from the FDP's annihilation in last year's European elections, a personal blow after his 10 years in the European Parliament.

But while Mr Bangemann, chosen for lack of an alternative, still has to prove his political qualities, he is equipped with the self-confidence the party needs to save it from ruin. He believes that this can best be done by placing competitiveness before social



● Mr Genscher: 11 years at the helm

equality. "We *want to hold* individualism and freedom against egalitarian trends, because efficiency alone will promote our economy and our society," he says.

It is a line that conflicts with the aspirations of the party's left wing, which has accused its leaders of opportun*ism and demands the tackling* of pressing problems such as unemployment and environmental pollution.

The FDP, which in recent opinion polls has been dangerously near the 5 per cent minimum vote requirement for parliamentary representation, will soon be put to the test in three crucial state elections. Next month, in the Saarland, their participation in government is at stake, while in West Berlin they risk being eliminated. There is no indication that the Liberals will be returned in the key state of North Rhine-Westphalia in May.

Within the Bonn coalition, the FDP has come under increased pressure from the rightwing Bavarian CSU of Mr Franz Josef Strauss, which, as an arch-enemy of liberalism, has not concealed its belief that the conservative parties should prepare themselves for a future without the FDP after the 1987 general election.

Mr Genscher, while putting up a fight on matters concerning his own foreign policy patch — such as the boundary issue — has had to give in on a number of domestic policy points. Without the position of party leader, commentators have asked how long Mr Genscher will have the stamina to fight for the preservation of continuity in foreign policy, on which doubt had already been cast.

They have interpreted as a worrying sign the distinct lack of support from Dr Kohl for the Vice-Chancellor on a number of recent foreign policy issues, and the growing gap between Dr Kohl's increasingly pro-American stance and Mr Genscher's emphasis on the need to safeguard European and German interests.

While Dr Kohl is said to be aware of his own dependence on the Liberals, there are signs that he is also preparing for the possibility *of a further* decline in support for the Liberal coalition partner. This is reflected most clearly in the Chancellery's efforts to gain greater control of foreign policy which has already resulted in its almost total takeover of German-American relations.

Tension within the coalition, and internal friction in the FDP are likely to prove a hindrance to the party's goal of regaining its traditional third place in West German politics, which has been taken over by the Greens.

While caution is required in predicting the collapse of the FDP — it has participated in government in Bonn for 28 of the past 35 years — the continued vagueness of the Liberal party programme and the damage the party has suffered as a result of its involvement in the Flick corruption scandal make the struggle for survival as a daunting task.

Blow to Sinowatz

VIENNA: The coalition Government, reeling from a series of political setbacks, *was dealt a new blow yester*day by the resignation of its building minister.

A spokesman for the Chancellor, Dr Sinowatz said he had accepted *the resignation* of Mr Karl Sekanina after press allegations of financial misconduct by the minister.

Dr Sinowatz later said that he had been unable to confirm the allegations and could not believe there was something wrong. But he said rumours about the incident had burdened the work of the Government.

Earlier this week the minister, aged 58, quit his post as chairman of Austria's most powerful trade union, the metalworkers' union, saying he could no longer do both jobs.

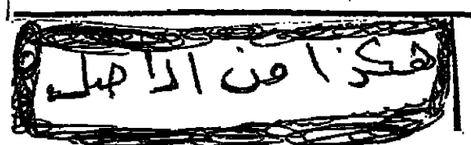
Government officials initially played down the resignation, saying that it would have no effect on the Socialist-led coalition, which has struggled through a series of embarrassing crises. — Reuter.

Greek leader set for win

ATHENS: The Greek Parliament will choose a new president on March 15, it was announced yesterday, and Mr Constantine Karamanlis, aged 78, is expected *to win* a second five-year term.

The ruling Socialists and the main opposition conservative New Democracy Party *have said that they* back his continuation in office.

The two parties can marshal the 180 votes — three-fifths of the 300-member legislature — needed to elect a president. Only the Greek Communist Party with 12 deputies is against Mr Karamanlis' candidacy. — Reuter.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Reagan in US bases mix-up

Opponents of Baghdad regime claim 450 soldiers killed

Kurd leaders reject Iraqi offer of amnesty

By Liz Thurgood,

Iraqi opposition leaders have rejected the government's offer of a broad political amnesty amid reports that Kurds have launched a series of big offensives against the Baghdad regime.

Kurdish sources said yesterday that 450 government troops were killed in two days of fighting last week. About 200 soldiers were allegedly taken prisoner and weapons, including 13 rocket-launchers, were seized.

Baghdad has not officially commented on this latest round of fighting which reportedly involved the capture by the Kurds of 19 fortified outposts close to the Iranian border and an army base in Shadala. Ambushes have been set along approach roads to prevent government reinforcements getting through. Fighting continues, a spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdestan said.

Whatever the truth of the Kurdish claims, Baghdad clearly cannot afford a renewed war on the home front when Iran might strike at any time. Year-long negotiations with PUK leaders, which broke down last month, allowed the Government to free four of six divisions based in Kurdestan to fight Iran.

Such heavy fighting underlines the Kurdish rejection of the government's amnesty. Announced on Feburary 13, the offer covers all the President's many enemies at home and abroad. Political prisoners were to be freed.

In London, the Islamic Dawa Party rejected the amnesty as "a propaganda ploy" designed by "a weak regime at a moment of despair." The Iraqi Communists are believed to have been equally dismissive.

Charging the Government with wide-spread repression, a Dawa spokesman said that no offer would be seriously considered until Baghdad ended the Gulf war and tried those officials responsible for the fighting — in effect, the President.

The demand reflects the party's Iranian connection. Dawa's leader, Mohammad Baqer, is based in Tehran while the rank-and-file are blamed for many bomb attacks in Gulf states during recent years.

Other Dawa demands included free elections and the return of thousands of Iraqis deported under the pretext of being Iranian nationals.

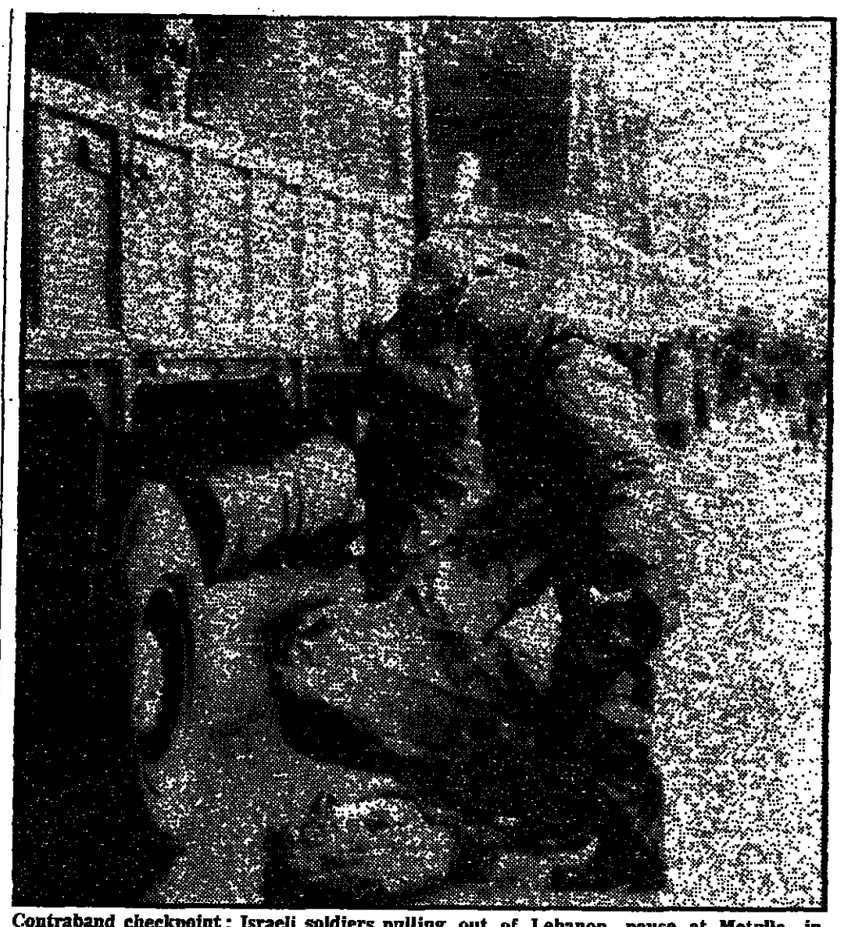
The Kurdish Democratic Party said in London that the amnesty had not so far produced the 8,000 Kurds who were allegedly arrested in 1983 after Iran successfully captured Kurdish heights at Haj Umrun. Accused of collaborating with the KDP, they were sent to camps close to the Jordanian border. A KDP spokesman said yesterday that they were feared dead.

In Iraq, the PUK claimed to have killed 56 Iraqi soldiers outside the oil town if Kirkuk at the end of January and another 40 near Arbil earlier this month.

The Kurdish objective appears to be twofold: in addition to wresting autonomy from Baghdad, the PUK wants to reestablish its preeminence among Iraqi dissidents. The Kurdish guerrillas were expelled from a broad opposition alliance shortly after opening negotiations with the Government in December.

In a statement earlier this week, the PUK described itself as the "dominant" and "most effective political military opposition force" and claimed that its three-week operation "surpassed all activities by the rest of the opposition in one year."

In a clear reference to the rival Kurdish Democratic Party, PUK chided the Opposition for "boasting about their imaginary achievements" and "criticising our peace negotiations with the Government."



Contraband checkpoint: Israeli soldiers pulling out of Lebanon, pause at Metulla, in northern Israel, their kit ready for inspection by the military police. Israeli troops were forbidden to buy anything while serving in Lebanon

Agonising on the harsh trauma of Lebanon

Israeli public faces a weekend of self-examination

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

ISRAEL'S Friday newspapers are the equivalent of the Sundays in Britain—thick, heavy and bulging with supplements and magazines.

Yesterday, column after column of newsprint was devoted to agonised and often bitter discussion of the problem that Israel faces in extricating itself from the Lebanon quagmire.

At the end of the week in which Israel began its long-awaited withdrawal, the subject of much of yesterday's punditry and analysis was what is the correct response to the rising tide of Shi'ite Muslim resistance in southern Lebanon—resistance which has claimed the lives of 10 soldiers and wounded scores of others since the Government decided on its three-stage unilateral troop pullback last month.

Yediot Aharonot, the right-wing mass circulation Hebrew daily, provided its readers with a long feature article entitled: "Shi'ites: all you wanted to know." The paper's rival, Ma'ariv, took up almost a whole page with a huge photograph of the weeping widow of the Israeli colonel killed in a guerrilla ambush last Monday. He was one of 620 servicemen who have died in Lebanon since the war began in June, 1982.

Mr Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of Israeli government operations in Lebanon, said in an interview with Ma'ariv that the believed that the worst mistake Israel could make would be to act the way that could be interpreted as running away from Shi'ite resistance. The paper's military correspondent reported that the new "iron fist" policy introduced by the Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, earlier this week, is in south Lebanon to stay.

Even critics of the Government seem resigned to the fact that Israel will have to go out fighting and that to speed up the pace of the withdrawal now would be to admit that the army has lost its deterrent power. "There is no choice but to go on executing the withdrawal as planned," the pro-Labour Davar newspaper commented in its editorial. "The illusion must not be allowed to form that the IDF (Israeli Defence Force) is accelerating its pullback because of these attacks."

Mr Gideon Samet, the respected Ha'aretz newspaper columnist, wrote caustically about the use of the new phrase, "Lebanese methods," to describe how to crush Shi'ite resistance.

"Beyond the disagreement about the best way to fight terror," he wrote, "we must understand that in the future we're going to have to live with these people, about whom we knew so little when we set off for war. If we take our revenge using 'Lebanese methods' we'll only arouse them further." After the abject failure of its grand strategy in Lebanon, Mr Samet said, Israel was now behaving like a "wounded animal," and should pull out without further delay.

As well as these immediate problems, yesterday's papers also paid some attention to the political and intelligence failures that helped turn the southern Lebanese Shi'ites, many of whom greeted the Israeli troops as liberators when the war began, into more dangerous and implacable foes than the Palestinians ever were.

Dr Yitzhak Bailey, an expert on Shi'ite affairs and a former adviser to Mr Lubrani, was quoted as saying that the longer Israeli forces stay in Lebanon, the more radical the Shi'ites will become. Israel's support for and dependence on the largely Christian South Lebanese Army, he said, will prevent any possibility of creating good relations with the Shi'ite community.

Reading their newspapers this weekend, Israelis will find it hard to disagree with the words of Labour's former foreign minister, Mr Abba Eban that the Lebanese war "has become the source of a violently traumatic experience from which our nation can never be liberated except by self-examination."

UN condemns Gulf war PoW torture

From Iain Guest in Geneva

After visiting prisoner of war camps in Iran and Iraq, a UN team of investigators has accused both governments of widespread violations of the third Geneva convention on the treatment of PoWs.

The team's report, which has just been made public, says that the Iranians have attempted indoctrination of the 50,000 Iraqi prisoners held in Iran, and deprived them of mail and recreation. This, the report says, has contributed towards a serious problem of mental disorder in the camps.

The report also says that the Iraqis have used "physical violence" against Iranian PoWs, who number about 10,000. This, says the report, included "whipping, beating with truncheons or cables, electric shocks, assaults on the sexual organs, and kicks — often inflicted in parts of the body where PoWs had suffered wounds."

The UN team consisted of two lawyers, from Austria and Norway, and a Venezuelan major-general. They visited the two countries between January 11 and 25.

The visit was prompted by an incident at the Gorgan camp, in Iran, last October 10, when Red Cross delegates witnessed a prison riot in which Iraqi PoWs were killed. The Iranians subsequently accused the Red Cross of spying, and shut down the agency's operations in Iran.

Peres justifies reprisals against Shi'ites as Arab ex-mayor dies of exposure

Tel Aviv: The Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, said yesterday that Israel's policy of tough repreasals against Shi'ite Muslims in southern Lebanon was right and should continue. "What we are doing in Lebanon is the right policy," he said after returning from Romania.

As he spoke, it was learned from Sidoutt, a former village mayor died of exposure yesterday after Israeli troops kept him and other Lebanese prisoners out all night in the winter cold.

Lebanese security sources said that the death of Abu Hassan Mohammed Ali Jawad in the village of Arab Salim brought to five the number of Lebanese who had been killed in Israeli raids on six Shi'ite villages on Thursday.

Israeli troops also shot dead a gunman who fired on an Israeli convoy near the village of Deir Mimess, south-west of Marjayoun, yesterday, and wounded five civilians, including a woman and two children, in three incidents.

Mr Peres rejected pressure to speed up Israel's pullout because of high Israeli casualties. "I think we have to implement our plans and not change them because we are being attacked," he said.

Mr Peres and his Cabinet are scheduled to meet military chiefs tomorrow to discuss the next stage of the withdrawal, which they have said will be completed by the end of summer.

Military sources said that there were two other attacks on Israeli troops in southern Lebanon yesterday but no Israelis were injured. In one attack, a roadside bomb exploded near a convoy near Shabriha, north-east of Tyre.

Ian Black adds: Palestinians from the occupied West Bank yesterday gave a powerful display of their loyalty to the PLO Leader, Mr Yasser Arafat, when they gathered in Jerusalem to pay homage to a PLO official who was murdered in Jordan last year.

Posters of Mr Arafat and PLO banners were displayed next to pictures of Mr Fahd Kawasmeh, the former mayor of the West Bank town of Hebron and newly-elected member of the PLO executive committee. He was killed in Amman last December by pro-Syrian rebels.

Hundreds of people from East Jerusalem and the West Bank packed into a school hall to listen to speeches praising Mr Kawasmeh, who was deported by Israel from Hebron in 1980 in retaliation for a PLO attack on Jewish settlers.

Young men in the crowd briefly displayed the Palestinian flag — custodial offence in the occupied territories — and chanted the PLO slogan of "revolution until victory."

Mr Kawasmeh was elected to the PLO executive committee at a meeting of the Palestine National Council in Amman last November. He was also appointed to the important post of director of the organisation's department of the occupied lands in a move designed to strengthen support for Mr Arafat in the West Bank.

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Tutu says activists held for peaceful opposition to regime

SA arrests union leader on charges of treason

Johannesburg: The black trade union leader, Mr Thozamile Goweta, has been arrested on treason charges, the eighth activist to be detained on such charges by police this week.

Seven other anti-apartheid campaigners were arrested on Tuesday in the largest crackdown in years. They were remanded in custody on Thursday until a court appearance on March 15, along with eight others charged in December with treason.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, the 1984 Nobel peace winner, told a rally that the 16 people were arrested for "using peaceful methods of expressing opposition" to white minority rule.

"When you oppose apartheid, and you do so effectively, then the authorities do not know to respond except in their usual ham-handed ways of the mailed fist," Bishop Tutu said.

Bishop Tutu said the Government had charged the 16 people because of overseas *pressure against detention* without charge, but the effect was the same—to let them "languish in gaol" for opposing apartheid.

The Southern African Roman Catholic Bishops' conference said in a statement read out at the rally that if the defendants were held without bail and then acquitted, "the South African Government will be guilty of using the system of justice to perpetuate injustice."

A police spokesman, Lt Henry Beck, said he did not know when Mr Goweta, a leader of the South African Allied Workers Union, was arrested. But Lt Beck confirmed that Mr Goweta was charged with treason.

● South Africa's only commercial nuclear power station, a French-built plant that began operating last year, has been shut down indefinitely because of flawed piping.

The state-run Electricity Supply Commission (Escom) said it had found that a variety of water-carrying stainless steel pipes, some linked to the reactor systems, contained iron impurities that could corrode.—AP/Reuter.



Stacks of timber crash into rough seas from the listing Malaysian freighter, Siti Freda, in Osaka Bay, Japan. All 20 Filipino seamen were rescued before the vessel capsized yesterday

Gandhi to mend fences in Paris

New Delhi: The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, is to visit France, the US, Egypt and Algeria in June. He will not visit Britain. The two-week trip will be Mr Gandhi's first overseas since the murder of his mother, Indira Gandhi, in October.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman said that Mr Gandhi would start his trip on June 6 with a four-day visit to France at the invitation of President Mitterrand.

After a day's stopover in Algiers on June 11, Mr Gandhi will fly to Washington for a four-day visit and spend two days in Cairo on his way home.

The spokesman said that Mr Gandhi would address an International Labour Organisation session in Geneva on June 18. The Prime Minister is scheduled to take part in the opening of a "Festival of India" in both Paris and Washington.

No dates have been fixed for his proposed visit to India's ally, the Soviet Union.

The announcement ended speculation that Mr Gandhi would drop France from his itinerary after relations with Paris were strained by India's biggest spy scandal.

Since the scandal broke last month, 17 government officials and businessmen have been arrested and made statements implicating France, Poland, East Germany and the Soviet Union.

Mr Gandhi said in an interview published on Thursday that the spy network had sold mostly industrial and economic secrets, but hinted that France came in for stronger action because it received higher-grade information.

"We felt there was some difference in the quality of material that was going there," he said.

Meanwhile, five suspects in the spy scandal yesterday said that they wanted to withdraw their confessions claiming they made them under pressure.

The Press Trust of India said that all those arrested in connection with the scandal were produced before a local magistrate yesterday and that their detention in judicial custody had been extended until March 6.

The personal assistant to President Zail Singh's press officer, Mr S. Sankaran, and two officials from Mr Gandhi's office were among the suspects who wanted to retract their confessions, the agency reported. — Reuter.

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Harare accused of intimidating Zapu

From Andrew Meldrum in Harare

The Opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, asserted yesterday that the Government is violently intimidating his Zimbabwe African People's Union party (Zapu).

Mr Nkomo said that he was investigating information that a member of Zapu's central committee was killed this week by plain clothes officers. Mahuzu Ncube is believed to have burned to death in a fire that started shortly after unmarked cars arrived at his house.

Speaking on the telephone from his home in Bulawao, Mr Nkomo also said that about 150 Zapu members had been detained by the authorities during the past two weeks in the Matabeleland North province. There has been no news from them and he feared for their safety.

Reports that a mass grave was uncovered in Matabeleland North were being investigated, the Opposition leader said.

Mr Nkomo said that he also wanted to find out what happened to two Zapu members who were arrested by police last weekend at a rally in the southern town of Gwanda where two ministers, Mr Enos Nkala and Mr Callistus Ndlovu, were speaking.

There are many "serious and worrying things going on" in the Matabeleland provinces, Mr Nkomo said. The provinces have for two-and-a-half years been the centre of violent, anti-government rebel activity.

The Government has cracked down on rebel activity there in two army campaigns which were widely criticised. More than 2,000 civilians died. The army is still active in the Matabeleland provinces where only about 500 dissidents are estimated to be operating.

Zapu has also charged that the elections to be held in June will be a "fraudulent exercise" because the Government has made no effort to create a *free atmosphere* for democratic polls.

Lost plane clues found

Bangkok: A team of American experts said yesterday that it had recovered human remains and personal belongings from the scene of a crash in Laos of a US plane in 1972.

The team's leader, L-Col. Joe Harvey's said in Bangkok that the remains were fragmented and it would be difficult to link them directly to 13 men missing from the AC-130 Hercules.

Col. Harvey said the plane had 16 men on board when it was hit by anti-aircraft fire. It exploded, crashed, and burned for two days. Two men parachuted to safety and were rescued. One body was recovered from the crash site a few days later.

Col. Harvey and his 12-member team spent 12 days combing the crash site in Pakse province, in southern Laos, aided by Laotian officials.

The US has listed almost 2,500 servicemen missing in Indochina — 1,826 in Vietnam, 559 in Laos, and 82 in Kampuchea. — Reuter.

Pakistan gives martial law pledge as 25 dissidents held

From Eric Silver in Islamabad

A senior Pakistani general pledged yesterday that martial law would be lifted within two months of Monday's national assembly elections.

Lieutenant-General Mujibur Rahman made the pledge amid reports that about 25 people were arrested at an opposition rally in Mansehra, northern Pakistan, bringing the number of politicians, party militants and suspected troublemakers who have been detained in recent weeks to more than 800.

General Mujib, who was appointed by the military Government to head the Information Ministry, said that President Zia ul-Haq intended to resign his army command and become a civilian president when martial law was lifted.

Four generals, who now serve in the Cabinet, would also step down, and the four provincial governors would leave the army if they wanted to continue in office.

Provincial governors, key figures in the martial law administration, are appointed by the President. "Once martial law is lifted," General Mujib said, "the governors will have to be civilians. If the President wants to keep them, they will have to terminate their service."

Although General Zia has not defined the powers of the new national assembly to be elected on Monday, General Mujib said that it would be sovereign and that there would be "no basic changes in the character of the 1973 *Constitution*."

Asked about the assembly's control over the executive, he answered: "The assembly will have full powers with regard to any bill, with regard to any policy, internal or external. The assembly could vote no confidence against the Prime Minister. The President could be impeached under due process of law."

General Mujib, who is regarded as the Government's spokesman, predicted that hundreds of opposition leaders and activists detained since the elections were announced would be released soon. "The intention is to release the vast majority within two to five days of the conclusion of elections. Some cases may take a few days longer, but there is no intention of holding them long-term."

The general contended that the political leaders had been given every encouragement to participate in the elections, provided that they did not use party names and party organisations. *That they had not* done so, he said, was their choice, but they had no right to disrupt the electoral process.

"These people were not detained," he insisted, "until they started indulging in activities that could disrupt the election process, or which could cause a serious law and order situation."

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Emergency renewed as five killed

Colombo: The Sri Lankan Parliament yesterday extended the state of emergency for another month as separatist guerrillas continued to strike at government authority in the north of the island.

The guerrillas, fighting for a separate state for Tamils, killed five policemen by setting off a landmine under their Jeep, the Government said.

The incident followed the kidnapping of two government officials in Northern Province two hours earlier.

Parliament decided by 128 votes to one to extend the emergency after government spokesman said that guerrilla violence had increased in the north and east.

The National Security Minister, Mr Alith Athulathmudali, said that a political solution could not be found to unrest between the majority Sinhalese population and Tamil minority as long as guerrillas continued their attacks.

He said that the rebels could be defeated only by cutting off supplies they received from the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu. India has denied Sri Lankan charges that the guerrillas get assistance from Tamil Nadu.

The emergency, first declared in May, 1983, has been extended monthly to give more powers to security forces.

Meanwhile, guerrillas yesterday kidnapped the chief civil administrator in the Mullaitivu district of Northern Province and another district official. The government issued a statement appealing for information on the whereabouts of the two officials. — Reuter.

Chun promises liberal reform

Seoul: President Chun Doo Hwan's ruling Democratic Justice Party yesterday pledged to push for democratic reforms in South Korea.

The party won 148 seats in *last week's general elections to* retain its majority in the 276-member National Assembly, but it was embarrassed by the unexpected good showing of the New Korea Democratic Party, which became the main opposition group with 67 seats. — Reuter.

Evidence on Aquino in doubt

MANILA: A technical expert, contradicting the military, yesterday told a court that the gun used to kill the Philippine opposition leader, Mr Benigno Aquino, was either a .38 or a .45-calibre weapon.

Mr Pedro Solis, former technical services director of the National Bureau of Investigation, said lead fragments recovered from Mr Aquino's chin "were in all likelihood parts of a .38 or .45-calibre bullet ..."

The military had said a .357 magnum revolver was used to kill Mr Aquino at Manila airport on his return from voluntary exile in the United States in August, 1983.

Mr Solis was testifying in the trial of General Fabian Ver and 25 others who have been linked with the murder. General Ver, free on bail and on leave to defend himself, is one of eight men charged as accessories.

The trial opened under tight security, and the Chief Sheriff, Mr Edgardo Urieta, said it was because of telephoned bomb threats made two weeks ago to some of the judges.

A group of young people demonstrated outside the court, carrying placards accusing the Government of double standards in allowing some of the accused—all but one of whom are in the armed forces—to remain in military custody pending the conclusion of the trial.

Findings of forensic experts formed part of a report by most members of a panel probing the murder.

One of the accused, Major-General Prospero Olivas, the former metropolitan Manila police chief, conducted the initial investigation into the murder. He said the assassin was a Communist agent called Rolando Galman who was shot dead at the airport by security men.

● Armed men yesterday kidnapped a Catholic bishop and 11 nuns and women lay workers in the southern Philippines. Mgr Federico Escaler, bishop of Zamboanga del Sur, and his companions were abducted from a minibus while on their way to Zamboanga City on the southern island of Mindanao.—Reuter.

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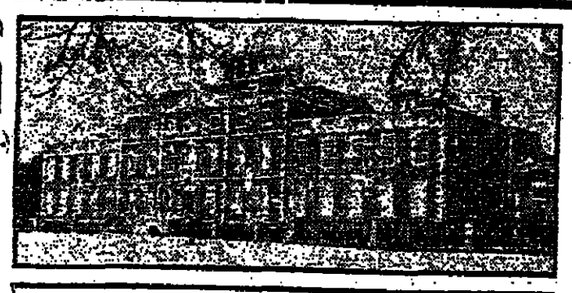
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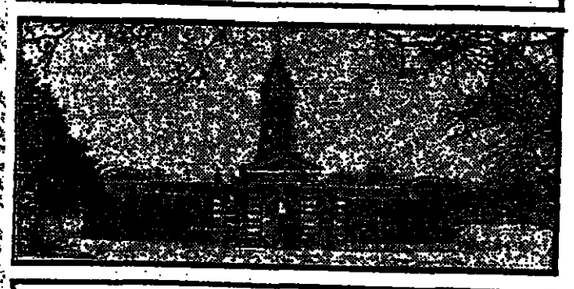
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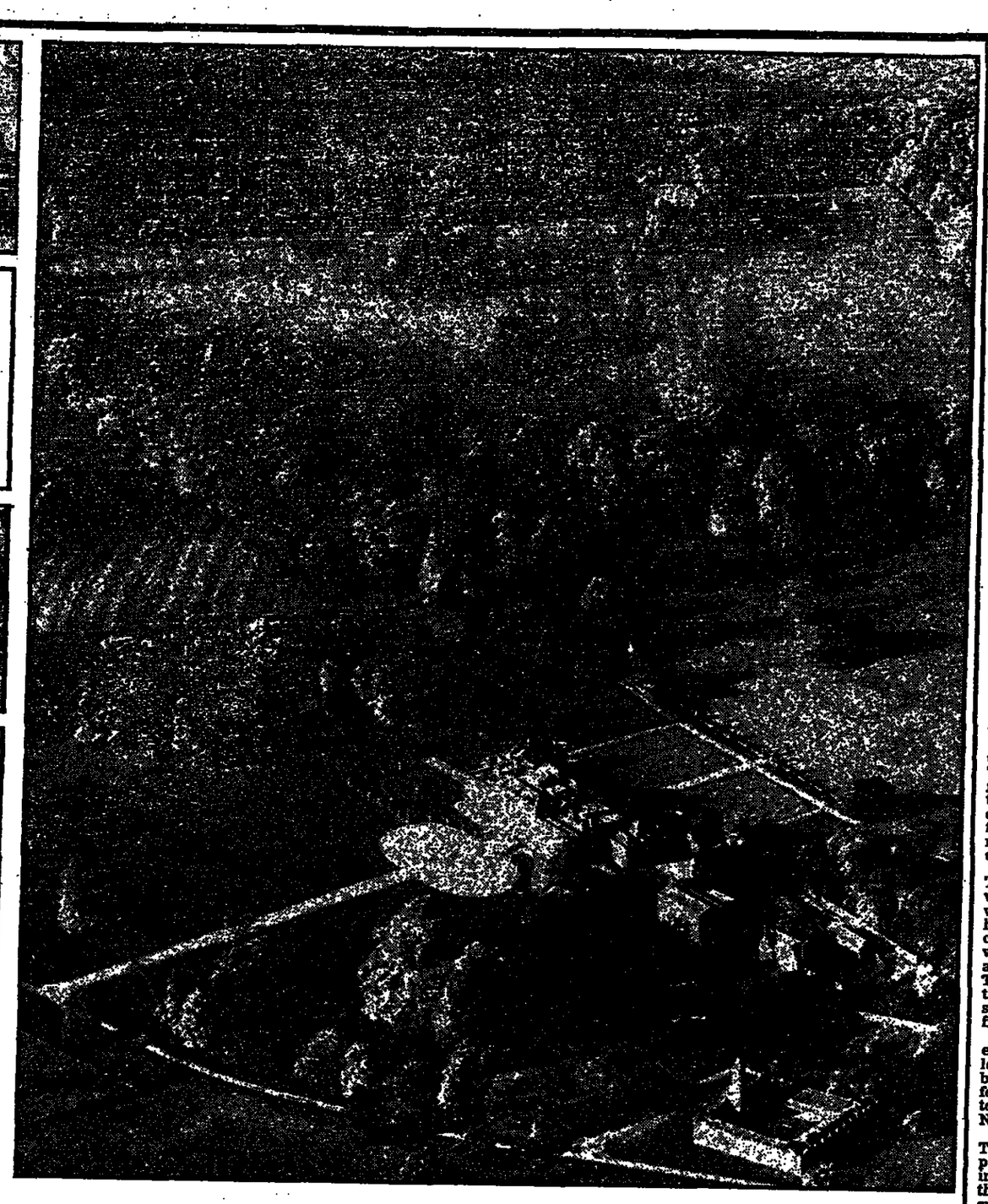
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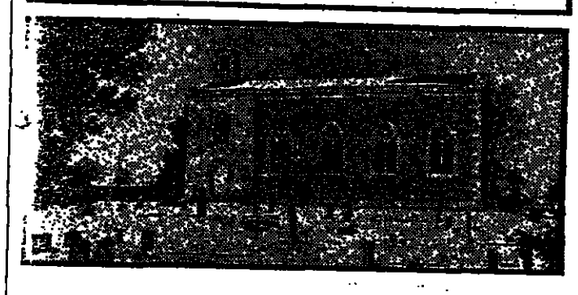
Christopher Chippindale reveals how the National Trust has ploughed up a splendid section of a medieval landscape — and questions the priorities of the Trust's operations





RIGHT: Wimpole Hall from the air with, lower right, the Victorian stable block, and between it and the house, the parish church. Above the house, in the area not improved by the gardeners, the medieval strips of ridge and furrow show as parallel lines of dark and light. Cambridge University aerial photograph.

Above and below: Pictures by Kenneth Saunders of the Hall, the stable block, and the church.



How far can we trust the Trust?

THE annual report of the National Trust, published in the next week or so, is likely to contain an embarrassing reference to vandalism the benign guardian of our heritage carried out last year when it accidentally ploughed up a unique medieval landscape at Wimpole Hall, Cambridgeshire.

The mistake happened through simple ignorance, the farm manager simply did not realise that the humps and bumps in the Wimpole park were rare and precious relics of ancient farming. But beyond the facts of what happened — and those are disputed — is a more complex question. What is the heritage we want the Trust to preserve, and which parts should be abandoned if preserving everything costs too much?

Wimpole is the most spectacular country mansion in Cambridgeshire, a symmetrical red brick house in a fine park, approached by a two mile avenue. The core, dating to 1640, was enlarged several times up to 1770. The last additions, made about 1840 in a "truly Victorian spirit of display," were demolished a few years ago.

Successive owners of Wimpole expanded its park, clearing away the hamlets and cottages, and re-settling the peasants out of sight. (The only building of old Wimpole village that survives is the church, owned by a power the squire could not override.) Part was landscaped by Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton and decorated with a sham ruined castle; much was simply left as grassland.

Wimpole was left to the Trust by Mrs George Bambridge, the daughter of Rudyard Kipling, who died in 1976. The house was in a fair state (though the roof was going); the estate was quite derelict. As usual, there was an agonising pause while the Trust worked out if it could afford to take Wimpole on. Lacking state funding or substantial central funds, the Trust keeps to a strict formula. The loss on upkeep of a property must be balanced by the profit on commercial management of the estate and by the income from visitors — Wimpole had 50,000-plus last year. Wimpole also has the royalties on Kipling's books — but only until the end of 1986 when the copyright expires.

The formula doesn't always work, but at Wimpole the balance was made. Car park, cafe, and souvenir shop appeared, as well as precautions against muddy shoes and light fingers — the sad price in loss of atmosphere that is always paid for the fabric's physical survival.

Then the Trust turned to the grounds, restoring the ruin which had become dangerously ruinous, clearing the vistas, replanting the avenue by an imaginative sponsor-a-tree programme.

The buildings on the estate's Home Farm were fearfully decayed, but they are marvellous: a perfect model farm designed by the neo-classical architect Sir John Soane in the early 1800s, complete with loose boxes for deer. They were restored, and a display of historic farm machinery installed in the great barn. Thatching alone cost £30,000 at the farm.

The Trust had the happy idea of making Home Farm into a rare breed centre, both conserving yet another part of the heritage and providing extra visitor income. It is a great success, 72,000 visitors last year, with a vast Tamworth sow named Phyllis a favourite attraction. Two white Longhorn bulls from Home Farm won prizes at last year's Royal Show.

So far, so good: the house, the landscaped grounds, the mock ruin, the Home farm, the rare breeds — all part of the heritage, all saved by the Trust for the benefit of us all.

Commercial farming of the park has been a different matter. As grazing it is a disaster. The first winter, the Trust put out store cattle to fatten in it; after chewing away for months, they had put on no weight whatsoever. The energetic farm manager saw it needed radical improvement — pipe draining, mole draining, Paraploughing, harrowing, reseeding with modern productive strains of grass mixes — and last year he set to work.

He was right. The grass had been neglected for decades, in fact for three centuries. Left alone since the cottagers were evicted, Wimpole park preserved three medieval settlements complete with house platforms, paths and tracks, windmill mound, quarry, and several hundred acres of ridge-and-furrow open fields. Christopher Taylor, the expert on ancient fields, calls Wimpole the "finest piece of fossilised medieval landscape in East Anglia." When the archeologists got word of the ploughing last June, they had it stopped — but that was too late for half the best ridge and furrow and for one of the settlement sites (it was meant to be left alone, but somehow was ploughed with the rest). East Anglia is the heartland of prairie farming — the last medieval landscape in Suffolk was ploughed 25 years ago — which makes Wimpole a greater loss.

How great is the damage? The Trust's archeologist, Peter Wade-Martins, thinks positively and talks in terms of blurring of the details of the earthworks. Tom Williamson, lecturer in landscape studies at the University of East Anglia, says flatly that they have come out looking like a bowling green. By modern standards, a medieval landscape is a slight kind of earthwork. At most a foot or two high, its banks simply can't stand up to the attack of a modern tractor. And the evidence is that it is a first ploughing that does the worst damage.

The Trust has recanted, stopped the grassland improvement, and woken up to this other bit of heritage it inherited. But the financial lifeboat that saved Wimpole has been upset; were it not for windfall royalties from a Rudyard Kipling film, Wimpole would make a loss this year. The trouble with the landscape, seen in competition with the other kinds of heritage at Wimpole, is that it is not obviously pretty or marketable. The Trust will do its best, and plans a guided walk for visitors round the park earthworks; but the Wimpole landscape, if its archeology is to be properly respected, will never earn its keep.

A final chunk of heritage at Wimpole, and the last building to be tackled, is the stable block. Built in 1851, the year of the Great Exhibition, the stables are Victorian architecture at its most grandiose and least impressive. They look distressingly like tram sheds with, literally, stone knobs on; even Nikolaus Pevsner, normally partisan for Victorian oddities, called them horrible. Like everything else at Wimpole when the Trust arrived, they are derelict; and they don't belong with the period of the house itself. Cambridgeshire was surveyed in the 1950s, before Victorian buildings began to be loved. So the stables were left off the register of listed buildings, and there may still be no legal obstacle to pulling them down, as happened to the same architect's "improvements" to the house itself.

But tastes have broadened since. No one wants to see them go, and the Trust is being given a grant-in-aid towards the £250,000 cost of restoring them. They will be used as a centre for visitors, and perhaps for horses again. In a crucial respect, that they can earn their keep in the 1980s, they have the advantage over a medieval landscape which is three times as old and, by any measure of rarity, immensely more precious.

So can we still trust the Trust? They will certainly not repeat this particular mistake. But we may see some more Wimpoles, as the Trust is asked to treat comparatively modern oddities with the same care as ancient rarities. As we take on an ever larger view of what the heritage is, we cramp the Trust's commercial freedom, the freedom which in the past allowed them to build the kind of financial lifeboats that saved Wimpole in the first place.

PENNINE WAYS: When the water supply froze, it seemed sensible to try to use snow. But when the snow wouldn't melt . . .? Kate Wedd continues her account of the family that has abandoned town life for a moorland cottage

When I had an early morning pot of brandy in bed, I realised the winter was getting to me

I AM NOT at one with Nature these days. I am more at sixes and sevens with it. The Good Life has seemed a bit mediocre recently; the Simple Life has been damn complicated.

This is largely because Nature has pulled a dirty trick at the very moment when I was starting to get confident—nay cocky—at my successful survival of a Pennine winter. Between the end of the festive season and now, I thought I had tried — and survived — every likely calamity.

First, I had no water. This was because the pipe from the spring froze on its way to the water tank in our loft. The way to resolve this is to get up in the loft with a blow torch and worm your way over the rafters playing the flame on the pipe and careful not to ignite the loft lagging. I called a plumber.

Then I had no electricity. This is because the overhead wires bang together in high wind and short out. Then I had no heating. This is because the heating system works with an electric pump and the electricity was off. Then I had no water . . . and this is because the house was so cold that the pipes kept freezing and re-freezing.

At first I tried to avoid or even flee the remorseless logic of this cycle of disaster, but I have now adopted a different tactic and I am trying to "go with it" — at One with Nature and all that.

When the water first froze, Toots and I demonstrated our pioneer spirit by dashing out into the garden and filling the dustbin with new-driven snow. We then tipped not one, but four bin loads into the bath to melt down.

It's a funny thing about snow, but when you want some to go ski-ing or to have a sledging party, it melts —faster than a toddler's icecream. But when you want it to melt, even when it is in a fairly warm environment (like my bathroom), it can hang around for days. The first day we whacked at it with the potato masher and wooden spoons to break it up. The second day we turned it into an educational experience and made snow men and snowpies — so much nicer than doing it in the cold wind. I'm surprised everyone does not do it. The third day (with the water running again and all the snow melting outside — but not in our bath) we accepted defeat and baled the stuff out of the bathroom window, which took an extraordinarily long time and left a surprisingly black bath.

With that experience behind us, and the power off all day for the next two or three days while the electricity men (God bless you, sirs) put up extra poles to stop the wires banging together, I settled down — not to manage the crisis — which after all is a townie, 20th century response — but to endure it. We got on better that way. When the power was off, we sat over the coal fire by candlelight. When the water was off, I drank brandy. It was when I had an early morning pot of brandy in bed that I realised the winter was getting to me.

It is not that it is cold. It is not that it is physically hard work — though both those things are true. It is that it is so very very boring. Snow, snow, snow, ... white snow out of a white sky on to a white ground, with white fences and white walls and white trees. I realised that people get cut off in the snow not because they cannot dig themselves out, but because they are too bored to try. This earthly paradise has been jolly dull recently ... I can say nothing worse than that.

It is really a question of deciding which eccentricity I shall make my own. Above the snow line we are all mad. It's just a question of a newcomer like me finding my own special style. My natural tendency is to chronic alcoholism, for which I have undertaken a long and arduous training and which is readily accessible since supplies can be sledged downhill in unbreakable boxes. But equally I could fill the house with cats or become grossly overweight or startlingly thin. Already my midnight leapings to Felicity Kendall's Shape-Up Tape have become a byword among shepherds up and down the dale. The possibilities are endless, and most of them are very appealing in the early stages. My natural choice would be drink and domestic violence.

Toots and I have a relationship which flourishes and blooms out of doors, and while undoubtedly it is All My Fault and I am a self-confessed Failure as a Mother, she and I are heartily sick of each other when we are imprisoned by a blizzard for more than 48 hours.

After we have squelched Play-Doh all over the floor and fallen out over her scheme to re-decorate the house with handprints, after I have tried without much success to make a puppet out of a bobbin and plasticine (Blue Peter you have a lot to answer for) and after I have miserably failed in my nominated role as a petrol pump, a tree blowing in the breeze, a troll under a bridge, and a mummy-tiger, we feel we have explored each other to the limits and something more is needed. What I think is really needed is a clip around the ear, but of course that is Not On.

I do not abuse her — she abuses me. If there were any justice in this child-obsessed society, I should be made a parent of court and be put in the care of the local authority. She orders me about in a way which would raise eyebrows in the SAS, she demands activities and materials which would beggar a Getty, and after I have rolled on the floor being a leaping salmon or a beached whale, she scowls dreadfully and says "That's not much like a fish, Mummy." Too right mate. I don't feel like a fish, I feel like a child abuser. And if I can't be a cruel stepmother, I don't see why the hell I should be a puppy with a poorly paw, Mrs Vet.

My collapse under a handful of snowflakes is exacerbated by my premature welcoming of spring. Only a few days ago I went out into my garden bare headed and gloveless and rooted around in what is going to be my fruit garden (as soon as I can move the boulders). There was a warm wet wind blowing which smelled of damp earth. Patches of green showing through the eternal white of snow and permanent grey of ice. One morning I woke and instead of the silence of a snow-covered countryside, I could hear the gurgle of streams which were bursting with melt water.

I stopped drinking brandy in the morning, and felt overall, that Life is a Good Thing, and Toots is a delightful child and shows her prodigious intelligence by her need for stimulation and her quite remarkable imagination. "Be a leaping salmon" indeed — how sweet!



'If there were any justice in this child-obsessed society, I should be made a parent of court and be put in the care of the local authority.'

Birds were singing again and the lapwings — where had they been all this time? — had suddenly turned up in big jolly flocks and had started pairing and dive-bombing over the moor to mark out their territory. There were tiny green shoots all over the garden. It was round one to winter . . . but at least we had made it through to spring with body and mind intact, and liver only slightly damaged.

So I said joyously in the village and was greeted with a sad knowing smile. "Oh no," they said, pityingly. "This is a thaw. We'll have a lot more snow before winter is over. Why, we haven't had hardly any yet."

"But it was the worst winter for twenty years?" I exclaimed. "Unheard of temperatures, lots of snow."

"Oh yes, there . . ." they said, dismissing with a southwards wave all counties below Yorkshire. "It was very cold there; but here it's been remarkably mild. We don't really start winter till the end of February. But then it can go on till May."

So now disappointment is mingled with frostbite and once more I gaze out of my window at a snow-blown hill which looks as if it never had the skill to grow grass. Surviving the winter remains a question of keeping the house warm, the child happy, the pipes free of ice, the brandy in stock, leaping to the aerobics tape and kneeling to God and saying "How long, Oh Lord? How long?"

A pigsty at the bottom of the garden

So what is more natural than to put a pig in it? But is the animal a pet or a meal ticket? Jim Cameron describes how he went the whole hog

The weighband: estimated weight 143lb.



WHEN we bought the house we noticed three derelict pig sties at the bottom of the garden. Casually, I said I would fix one up and get a pig. There the matter lay, dormant for several years.

But inspired by John Seymour's books, rebuilding one of the sties commenced on a torrential July day. It was slow work. Friends helped; the technique was basically dry stone walling followed by copious pointing. The definitive name given by one helper was "reinforced dry stone walling." Building with random stone is like doing a heavy jigsaw puzzle three dimensionally. Eventually the roof went on one snowy February day, and finally, almost exactly a year after starting, slates and cast iron gutter were added to finish the job. It looked beautiful. Random stone, old slates, stained doors, lead flashing. A listed pig sty if ever there was one.

Buying the pig was easy. I knew about a pig farmer eight or nine miles away who kept traditional breeds: Lops, Tamworths, Saddlebacks, Middle Whites. Arriving at the farm, an enormous lorry was being loaded with grain by three men. They seemed absorbed in their task. I went looking for the farmer. First to the house, no reply. Then into the various sheds, each filled with pigs, small, large and gigantic, grunting and squealing explosively when I entered. Giving up I went back to the lorry, asking a young man lounging against the side of a barn. "Is Mr Turnbull around?"

"Aye, there's three of them here." When I said I wanted to buy a pig, it was like pressing a magic button. The lorry drove off. Mr Turnbull proper stood before me. The proud purveyor of five hundred pigs.

I explained what I wanted, an easy, no problems, beginners' pig. Mr Turnbull laughed and said there would be only one problem, that we'd get too fond of her and not be able to kill her. We settled on a gilt, a young female, middle white x saddleback, ten weeks old and costing £26.

Before you can move a pig, you have to have a movement order. So we arranged to come back in a week's time for Phillippa, as we had already christened her. The week passed in trepidation. I prepared a large chest, lavishly ventilated, and set off with the trailer. The movement order was handed over. I said, "I want one with nice markings." Mr Turnbull told Hazel, his assistant, to choose a good one. We entered the barn where the batch of growers was. There were about 20, in a large pen. Hazel dived in and finally grabbed what she thought was a good one. Mr Turnbull demurred and the chase resumed. Pigs can run very fast. Eventually a most beautiful pig was carried to the trailer. So, loaded with Phillippa and six bales of straw, I gingerly drove home.

Keeping the pig was surprisingly easy. We were determined that there was to be no offensive smell, and there wasn't. Merely a pleasantly rural whiff of fresh straw. The secret was daily cleaning out of any muck straight on to a covered compost heap. This muck, and resulting marvellous compost, was a valuable by-product.

Phillippa proved clean, lively, and intelligent. She would stand on hind legs looking over her door at what was going on in the garden. On the afternoon of her weekly straw change, she really went crackers. Sluicing down her yard and throwing in fresh straw would make her disappear into her sty and then come galloping out through her doorway at full speed, the charge culminating in a roll at my feet like a demented labrador.

She loved apples and ate bucket after bucket of windfalls. Gloucester Old Spots were in fact bred for this very purpose. Courgettes were another favourite.

At night she would disappear into a pile of straw. They keep pigs outdoors in Sweden, even in the winter, perfectly happily as long as they have ad lib straw for burrowing into.

Phillippa certainly had presence, she was very real. One could understand the fascination of pigs for writers, and literature is full of references to them. One of the best of all children's books is The Peppermint Pig, by Nina Bawden. Only after keeping a pig can one fully appreciate the book.

In the utilitarian sense there is Cottage Economy, by William Cobbett, and the haunting Larkrise To Candleford, by Flora Robson. But best of all for pure surrealism is A Scots Quair, by Grassic Gibbon, a little known and neglected book set on the east coast of Scotland. It consists of three novels, the first Sunset Song, is as earthy and beautiful as John Berger's Savoy. In the second, Cloud Howe, there is the episode when one character slips the body of a pig into his friend's bed. His friend returning home late from the pub, cuddles the pig and exclaims, "Your awful cold the night, Jeanie." Thinking it to be his wife.

As almost vegetarians, friends were surprised that we were keeping a pig. "How can you eat all that meat?" "Pork has the highest fat content, you'll have a heart attack." But most of all, "How can you bear to eat her after keeping her?" The trouble was that we could see their point of view; in a sense one agreed with them. But some meat occasionally, say once a fortnight, seems right to me. Pork is indeed very fatty, but one has to look at the total fat content of one's diet. If one eschews junk food, eats fresh fruit and vegetables, the occasional organic pork chop is not going to kill you.

As to how can you eat her after keeping her, the answer is reluctantly. She was cossetted and nurtured whilst alive. Treated kindly and humanely and ultimately killed without feeling a thing. It was indeed sad to kill her. But better to do that than go to the butchers, where all problems are solved because you know nothing about the history of your pork chop.

The taste of the first leg of pork was terrific, all those windfall apples, all that fresh air. It was deep and resonant. The comparison with supermarket pork was non-existent. The stuff one buys in the shops is pale, flabby, soft, and insipid.

We pickled a ham, which came out brown from its pickle, but it looked like a proper eighteenth century ham, like those little ones you see in dolls' houses. Supposedly it should mature for a further twelve months before eating. But the temptation was too much. After hanging it in the garage for six weeks we tried some. At first we nibbled a bit raw, basuto. It tasted interesting. Then we tried some as bacon, it was extremely pickly and salty. We were drinking tea all morning.

We de-salted it by soaking it in water overnight. Then we cooked it with a big bunch of fresh garden herbs. Now at last it looked perfect, complete with a ham frill, brownish on the outside, pinker towards the middle. It tasted strong but not too salty. Its texture was dense. Each slice was substantial. It ranked with puffball pickled in brandy.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Saturday 23 Feb 7.30 pm LONDON BACH ORCHESTRA The Bach Choir Sir David Willcocks (conductor) Felicity Lott (soprano) Catherine Wyn-Rogers (contralto) Maldwyn Davies (tenor) Stephen Roberts (bass) To Celebrate Handel's 300th Birthday; Handel Messiah. £3.50, (only) — London Bach Orchestra Ltd

Sunday 24 Feb 7.30 pm PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Simon Rattle (conductor) Kyung Wha Chung (violin) Berlioz Overture, Roman Carnival. Beethoven Violin Concerto: Sibelius Symphony No.2. RETURNS ONLY — Philharmonia Ltd

Tuesday 26 Feb 7.30 pm Gala Concert in support of the Icelandic National Concert Hall PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Vladimir Ashkenazy (cond) Elisabeth Söderström (sop) Sibelius Karelia Suite, Luonnotar: Grieg Monte Pincio; Spring; I Love Thee; Dvořák New World Symphony. £3.50, £4, £5, £6, £7, £8, £9, £10 — Harrison/Parrott Ltd

Wednesday 27 Feb 5.55 pm CELEBRATING 1685 Bach/Handel/Scarlatti Hannes Kästner (organ) Bach Fantasia in C min, BWV.562; Chorale Prelude, BWV.654; Allabreve, BWV.589; Reger Benedicus; Toccata & Fugue in D minor/D; Bach Partita: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig, BWV.768. £1.50 unreserved — GLC

Wednesday 27 Feb 7.30 pm BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Rudolf Barshai (conductor) Alicia de Larrocha (piano) Sheila Armstrong (soprano) Mozart Piano Concerto in B flat, K.595; Mahler Symphony No.4. £2.50, £3.50, £4.70, £5.80, £6.90, £8.00 — Western Orchestral Society Ltd

Thursday 28 Feb 7.30 pm PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Simon Rattle (conductor) Kyung Wha Chung (violin) Brahms St. Anthony Variations, Beethoven Violin Concerto: Ravel/Milhaud/Poulenc L'Eventail de Jeanne, Debussy La Mer. £3, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, (only) — Philharmonia Ltd

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Sunday 24 Feb 3.00 pm FOU TS'ONG (piano) Beethoven Sonata, Op.13 (Pathétique), Mozart Sonata in F, K.533 and K.494; Chopin Contredanse in G flat; Cantabile in B flat; Albumblatt in E; Largo in E flat; Fugue in A min; Souvenir de Paganini in A, Ballades Nos.2 & 4; 2 Nocturnes Op 48 £1.50, £2.50, £3, £4, £5 — Intermusica Artists Mgt

Monday 25 Feb 7.45 pm CHARLES RAMIREZ (guitar) HELEN KALAMUNIAK (guitar) Programme includes: Rodrigo Tonadilla; Bach Partita (French Overture); Ravel Pavane; John Lambert Toccata for solo guitar (1st perf) and music by Granados. £2.50, £3.00, £3.50, £4.00 — Schmaltz Productions

Tuesday 26 Feb 7.45 pm THE PEKINEL SISTERS (two pianos) Brahms Four Waltzes, Op.39; Brahms Two Hungarian Dances, Nos.17 and 21, Rachmaninov Suite No.2, Op.17; Ravel La Valse; Stravinsky Le Sacre du printemps. £2, £3, £4, £5, £6 — Anglo-Swiss Artists' Management

Wednesday 27 Feb 7.45 pm ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS Kenneth Sillito (dir) Michala Petri (recorder) Handel Concerto Grosso, Op.6/6; Telemann Suite in A min for recorder & orch; Rossini Sonata No.1; Vivaldi Recorder Concerto in C; Suk Serenade for string orch, Op.6. £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50 — Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Thursday 28 Feb 7.45 pm ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Mitsuko Uchida (director/piano) English Chamber Orchestra Wind Ensemble Mozart Piano Concerto in C, K.467; Mozart Wind Serenade in C minor, K.388; Mozart Piano Concerto in A, K.488. RETURNS ONLY — E.C.O. & Music Society Ltd

Friday 1 March 10.00 am to 5.00 pm NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC FOR YOUTH. The first of twenty-eight Nationwide auditions, sponsored by W.H. Smith. Orchestras, wind bands, jazz bands, steel bands, chamber groups & choirs from London and the Home Counties. ADMISSION FREE — Music for Youth

Friday 1 March 7.45 pm DANIEL VARSANO (piano) Schumann Arabesque; Schumann Sonata in F sharp minor, Op.11; Franck Prelude, Chorale and Fugue; Chopin Nocturne in D flat; Chopin Scherzo No.1 in B minor. £1.50, £2.50, £3, £4, £5 — Grapevine Concert Management

PURCELL ROOM

Sunday 24 Feb 2.45 pm A TINDERBOX 'DRAGONS AND PIGS' CONCERT For children aged 4-8 presented by David Moses and David Remm Songs, stories and instrumental music with plenty of scope for audience participation to include Jeffry the Dragon and The 3 Little Pigs. £3.00 (only) — Tinderbox

Sunday 24 Feb 7.00 pm CYNTHIA BATEMAN (mezzo-contralto) STEPHEN REYNOLDS (piano) Prog inc: Stephen Reynolds English Songs in Tribute to Debussy: November Sides; Eternity (1st pf); A Dream of the Unknown for pno solo & wds by Purcell, Bach, Schubert, Schumann & Elgar. £1.50, £2.50, £3.50 — Choveaux Management

Monday 25 Feb 8.00 pm YOLANDE WRIGLEY (piano) Haydn Sonata in C, Hob.XVI.48; Beethoven Sonata in C sharp minor, Op.27 No.2 (Moonlight); Bartók Suite, Out of Doors; Stephen Dodgson The 4 Moods of the Wind; Debussy Five Preludes. £2.00, £3.00 — Kirckman Concert Society Ltd

Tuesday 26 Feb 7.30 pm LE NOUVEAU QUATUOR Telemann 2 Paris Quartets (Nouveaux Quatuors); Fantasia No.7 in D for unaccomp fl; Handel Sonata, Op.1/13 for vln & cont; C.P.E. Bach Sonata in C for bass viol & cont; Haydn Trio in G for fl, vln & cello (London); T. Giordani Quartet, Op.3/1. £1.50, £2.50, £3.50 — Philippa Hanney Concert Mgt

Thursday 28 Feb 7.30 pm VIRGINIA BLACK (harpsichord) Bach Goldberg Variations. £1.50, £2.50, £3.50 — Norman McCann International Artists Ltd

Friday 1 March 7.30 pm LINDA MERRICK (clarinet) ANDREW WILKINSON (piano) Ireland Fantasy-Sonata; McCabe Three Pieces 1984; Finzi Five Bagatelles; Stoker Partita (first performance); Horovitz Sonatina. £1.50, £2.50, £3.50 — Bridget Duckenfield

Saturday 2 March 7.30 pm ARBOREA MUSICA Vivaldi Concertos in G min & F for fl, vln, bssn & bass; Corelli Sonata for vln with bass; Telemann Qrt for fl, vln, gamba & bass; Qrt for 2 flutes, obbligato bass & continuo; Fiati Sonata in C minor for oboe with bass. £1.50, £2.00, £2.50 — Arborea Musica

GLC Working for the Arts in London

Wigmore Hall

Tonight Feb. 23 7.30 pm	BARRY DOUGLAS piano £4.50, £4, £3, £2 Ibbs & Tillett Ltd.	Beethoven: Sonata in A flat Op 110. Chopin: Ballade in F Op 38 Nocturne in E min Op 72 No 1. Scherzo in C sharp min No 39. Mussorgsky: Pictures at an Exhibition
Tomorrow Feb. 24 3.30 pm	IMOGEN COOPER piano £4, £3.30, £2.50, £1.80 London Pianoforte Series	Schubert: The Last Six Years (1823-1828) Sonata in C D840 "Reliquie." Four Impromptus D935. Sonata in A D959. 1st of 4 concerts, other dates March 6, 20, 27. London Pianoforte Series / Ingpen & Williams / Jane Gray
Tomorrow Feb. 24 7.30 pm	MAGGIE COLE harpsichord lute harpsichord NIGEL NORTH lute £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £2 Robert White Artists Mgt.	JS Bach: Partita in E min BWV830. Lute Suite in C BWV1007. Lute Sonata in A min BWV1083. Canons on the bass of the "Goldberg" Air BWV1087. Early Music & Bar. Series/Guitar & Lute Series 4 of 6 concerts.
Monday Feb. 25 7.30 pm	BERNARD DEMIERRE piano £4, £3.20, £2.50, £1.80 Helen Jennings Concert Agency	Bach: Prelude & Fugue in F sharp min Bk 2. Schumann: Symphonic Studies Op 13. Brahms: Sonata in F sharp min Op 2.
Tuesday Feb. 26 7.30 pm	THE TALLIS SCHOLARS Dir. Peter Phillips £4, £3.20, £2.50, £1.80 Early Music & Baroque Series	Thomas Tallis: Te Deum (English setting). Videte miraculum. Audivi vocem. O nata lux. Lamentations (I & II). O sacrum convivium. Derelinquat impius. Quod chorus vatum. If ye Love me. Hear the voice and prayer. Gaude gloriosa
Wednesday Feb. 27 7.30 pm	VARSOVIA STRING QUARTET £4, £3.20, £2.50, £1.80 Mendelssohn/Italian Series	Boccherini: Quartet in E flat Op 33 No 6. Beethoven: Quartet in C Op 59 No 3 "Rasumovsky". Dvorak: Quartet in F Op 95 "American." Clarion Concert Agency.
Thursday Feb. 28 7.30 pm	ANTHONY ROLFE JOHNSON tenor GRAHAM JOHNSON piano. £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £2. Song Recital Series.	Songs on the Seasons by Schubert & R. Strauss; Britten: 7 Sonnets of Michelangelo. France in Italy. Songs in Italian by Gounod, Massenet, Faure, Ravel and Hahn.
Friday March 1 7.30 pm	GEORGE MALCOLM harpsichord £5, £4, £3, £2 Early Music & Bar. Series Harold Holt Ltd.	Handel: Prelude, Allegro & Air with vars. in B flat. Minuet in G min. Chaconne in G. Suite No 3 in D min. Prelude in G. Capriccio in G min. Fugue in G min. Chaconne in F. Fantasia in C. Suite No 5 "The Harmonious Blacksmith."
Saturday March 2 7.30 pm	MIRIAM FRIED violin ROGER VIGNOLES piano £4, £3.20, £2.50, £1.80	Mendelssohn: Sonata in F (1838) Bartok: Sonata No. 2 Brahms: Sonata No. 3 in D min Op 108 Mendelssohn/Italian Series
Sunday March 3 3.30 pm	DMITRI and TANYA ALEXEEV piano duet £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £2 London Pianoforte Series	Schumann: Twelve Four Hand Piano Pieces Op 85. Schubert: Fantasy in F minor D940. Brahms: Hungarian Dances Bk 1, 1-8
Sunday March 3 7.30 pm	DAVID RUSSELL guitar £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £2 Guitar & Lute Series/ Summerfield Ltd.	Saint-Luc: Suite. Scarlatti: 3 Sonatas. Barrios: 4 Dances. Giuliani: 2 Irish Airs. Rodrigo: Elogio de la Guitarra. Castelnuovo-Tedesco: 4 Caprichos de Goya
Monday March 4 7.30 pm	NICHOLAS COX clarinet VANESSA LATARCHE piano £4.50, £4, £3, £2 AVANTI Mgt.	Rossini: Fantasie. Berg: 4 Stücke Op 5. Brahms: Sonata in E flat Op 120 No 2. Debussy: Première Rhapsodie. Hugh Wood: Paraphrase (1st perf). Weber: Grand Duo Concertant.
Tuesday March 5 7.30 pm	GERARD SOUZAY baritone ROBIN BOWMAN piano £5 £4 £3 £2	Songs by Beethoven, Brahms, Poulenc, Ravel, Rachmaninov, R. Strauss. Song Recital Series
Wednesday March 6 7.30 pm	IMOGEN COOPER piano £4, £3.20, £2.50, £1.80 Ingpen & Williams Ltd/ Jane Gray	Schubert: The Last Six Years (1823-1828): 2 of 4 concerts. Sonata in A minor D845. Drei Klavierstücke D946. Sonata in D D850. Other concerts March 20, 27. London Pianoforte Series
Thursday March 7 7.30 pm	LA RAPHAELE £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £2 Early Music & Baroque Series/EMN	Music at the Dresden Court from Schutz to Bach. Works by Schutz, Walther, Lotti, Handel, WF Bach, JS Bach & Zelenka
Friday March 8 7.30 pm	ALBERT FERBER piano £4, £3.20, £2.50, £1.80 Jane Gray	Brahms: Rhapsody Op 79 No. 2 Intermezzi Op 117 No 2, Op 118 No 6. Howard Ferguson: Sonata in F minor. Schubert: Adagio in E D613. Sonata in A minor D845.

HAROLD HOLT LTD presents
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GEORGE MALCOLM

Harpsichord recital



HANDEL

In celebration of 300th anniversary
For details see Wigmore Hall panel

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli
Thursday Next, February 28 at 7.30 p.m.

SIMON RATTLE
OSCAR SCHOMSKY

Brahms: St Anthony Variations
Beethoven: Violin Concerto
Ravel / Milhaud / Poulenc: L'Eventail de Jeanne
Debussy: La Mer
£3, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50 (ONLY)
from Hall (01-928 3191) CC (01-928 8800) & Agents

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Tuesday Next, February 26 at 7.45 p.m.

Guher & Suher PEKINEL

Piano Duo
"One mind, two hearts, four hands" Le Figaro

BRAHMS Four Waltzes Op 39
BRAHMS Hungarian Dances Nos 17 and 21
RACHMANINOV Suite No 2 Op 17
RAVEL La Valse
STRAVINSKY *Le Sacre du Printemps*
£2, £3, £4, £5, £6 Box Office (01-928 3191) CC (01 928 8800
Anglo-Swiss Artists' Management Ltd.

FRIDAY NEXT, MARCH 1 at 7.45 pm

DANIEL VARSANO

PIANIST

a young pianist of the greatest elegance, originality and style —Daily Telegraph

For details see South Bank panel

SATURDAY NEXT MARCH 2 at 7.45 pm

BEETHOVEN — ROSSINI

Christus am Olberge — Stabat Mater

Lorna Windsor (sop) Catherine Denley (contr) Kenneth Bowen (Tenor) Peter Savidge (Bass)

CITY OF LONDON CHOIR — LONDON BACH ORCHESTRA
Conductor DONALD CASHMORE
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Sunday February 24 7.30pm CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA. Doron Salomon (cond) Anthony Goldstone (piano), Andrew Watkinson (violin), James Clark (violin). Mendelssohn: Overture 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Albinoni: Adagio. Mozart: Piano Concerto No 21 in C, K467. Bach: Concerto for Two Violins in D minor. Mendelssohn: Symphony No 4 in A, Op 90 'Italian'. £6, £4 only, all others sold. *Victor Hochhauser Ltd.*

Monday February 25 7.45pm PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. Kyung-Soo Won (cond). Blanca Uribe (piano). Dvořák: Carnival Overture, Op 92. Beethoven: Piano Concerto No 5 in E flat, Op 73 'Emperor'; Symphony No 5 in C minor, Op 67. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50, £2.50

Tuesday February 26 1.00pm THE ORCHESTRA OF ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE. The MENCAP Concerts. John Lubbock (cond). Jeremy Menuhin (piano). Mozart: Piano Concerto No 9 in E flat, K271. Symphony No 33 in B flat, K319. All seats £2.50

Wednesday February 27 7.45pm LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Tchaikovsky Concert. Vilem Tausky (cond) Antony Peebles (piano). Tchaikovsky: Waltz from 'The Sleeping Beauty', Suite from 'Swan Lake'; Piano Concerto No. 1 in B flat minor, Op 23; Suite from 'The Nutcracker', Overture '1812' with cannon and mortar effects. £6.50, £5.50, all others sold, *Victor Hochhauser Ltd.*

Thursday February 28 7.45pm LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Jeffrey Tate (cond) Jorge Bolet (piano). Mozart: Overture 'The Magic Flute'. Brahms: Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat, Op 83. Schubert: Symphony No 9 in C, D944 'The Great'. £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4, £3 only

Friday March 1 8.00pm LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA. Fraser Goulding (cond) Raymond Cohen (violin) Prog. inc. Wagner: Ov 'The Mastersingers'. Sibelius: Finlandia. Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto. Waldteufel: Skaters' Waltz. Elgar: Pomp and Circumstance March No 1. Ravel: Boléro. £8, £7, £6, £5, £4 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd.*

Saturday March 2 7.45pm LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Richard Hickox (cond) Jorge Bolet (piano). Rossini: Overture 'Semiramide'. Grieg: Piano Concerto. Beethoven: Symphony No 3 'Eroica'. £8.50, £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £3

Monday March 4 7.45pm LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Paul Capolongo (cond) Ozan Marsh (piano). Liszt: Totentanz, Piano Concerto No 1. Beethoven: Overture 'Prometheus'. Tchaikovsky: Symphony No 6 'Pathétique'. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50, £2.50 *John Higham International Artists Ltd.*

Tuesday March 5 7.45pm LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Yoel Levi (cond) Maurice Murphy (trumpet). Mozart: Symphony No 41, K551, 'Jupiter'. Mozart: Trumpet Concerto. Tchaikovsky: Symphony No 5. £8.50, £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4, £3

Wednesday March 6 8.00pm LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA. Trinity Boys' Choir/London Chorale. David Coleman (cond). Ann James (soprano) Neil Jenkins (tenor) Alan Opie (baritone). Tchaikovsky: Romeo and Juliet. Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade. Orff: Carmina Burana. £8.50, £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd.*

Thursday March 7 7.45pm LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Yoel Levi (cond) Christian Zacharias (piano). Mussorgsky: Prelude to 'Khovanshchina'. Rachmaninov: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini. Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet. £8.50, £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4, £3

Friday March 8 8.00pm MUSIC FROM THE BALLET. London Concert Orchestra. David Coleman (cond) Beryl Grey (presenter) Tchaikovsky: Sleeping Beauty Waltz, Swan Lake Suite, items from 'The Nutcracker'. Weber: Invitation to the Dance. Offenbach: Overture Gaite Parisienne. Delibes: Items from Coppelia. £8.50, £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4.50. *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*

BARBICAN — MONDAY NEXT at 7.45 p.m.

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PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Conductor: KYUNG-SOO WON
BLANCA URIBE piano

DVORAK: Carnival Overture
BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 5 (Emperor)
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 5

£2.50, £3.50, £5, £6, £7, £8 Box Office (01-628 8795 CC (01-638 8891)

St John's Smith Square

Sunday Feb 24 7.30 pm ERNEST READ SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Howard Williams (cond) Christine Botes mezzo-sop. Dvorak: Symphonic Variations. Mahler: Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen. Tchaikovsky: 'Manfred' Symphony. £3.50, £2.50 Unreserved ERMA

CINEMAS

London

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. The Tavianis' KAOS (15) Sep perfs. Weekdays 2.30, 7.25, Sun 3.40, 7.05. ACADEMY 2. Olivier's RICHARD III (U) Film at 2.0 (not Sun) 5.0, 8.0. ACADEMY 3. 437 8819 Marcel Carné's LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (PG) Films 4.10 & 7.30.

BARBICAN CINEMA 628 8795 Student reductions all perfs. Today Children's Cinema Club (Instant Membership) 11.0 & 2.30 The Planet of the Apes. Ton't 6.0 & 8.0 A PRIVATE FUNCTION (15).

CAMDEN PLAZA. 485 2443 (opp tube Camden Town). Alex Cox's REPO MAN (18). Film at 1.15, 3.05, 5.00, 7.00, 9.05.

CHELSEA CINEMA. 351 3742. Kings Road, SW3 (Nearest Tube Sloane Sq) A PRIVATE FUNCTION (15) Film at 2.35, 4.35, 6.50, 9.0. Advance Booking last perf only.

CIC CINEMAS. Programme Inquiries 200 0200. Perfs marked * are bookable at the box office open daily 11 am to 7 pm (Sun 1 pm to 7 pm). Telephone Booking Service available for Last Evening Performance only on 437 1234. Empire 2 and all Plazas are No Booking Theatres.

EMPIRE 1, Leicester Square. BEVERLY HILLS COP (15) IN DOLBY STEREO. Sep. Progs Daily 12.45, 3.15, 5.45, 8.15*. Late. Late Show Fri & Sat 11.0 am.

EMPIRE 2, Leicester Square. INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM (PG) In DOLBY STEREO. Sep Progs Daily 12.45 (not Sun) 3.15, 5.45, 8.30* Late Show Fri & Sun 11.5 pm.

PLAZA 1, Piccadilly Circus. DUNE (PG) In 70mm Stereo. Sep progs Daily 2.30, 5.50, 8.15*. Later Show Sat 11.15 pm.

PLAZA 2, TEACHERS (15) Sep. Progs Daily 1.15, 3.50, 6.0, 8.30*. Late Show Sat 11.15 pm.

PLAZA 3, ANNIE HALL (15) Cont Progs Daily 1.50 (not Sun) 5.30, 9.15. MANHATTAN (15) Cont progs daily 3.30, 7.15. Late Show Sat 11.15 pm. ANNIE HALL only.

PLAZA 4, TRADING PLACES (15) Cont Progs Daily 1.5 (not Sun) 5.0, 9.0. TOP SECRET (15) Cont Progs Daily 3.05, 7.05. Late Show Sat 11.15 pm. TRADING PLACES only.

CURZON MAYFAIR, Curzon St, W1. 01-499 3737. James Mason, Edward Fox in THE SHOOTING PARTY (15). "Superb" S Exp. "A Brilliant Film" BBC. Film at 2.00 (not Sun) 4.10, 6.20, 8.40.

EVERYMAN, HAMPSTEAD. 435 1525. ROBERT ALTMAN'S SECRET HONOR (15) Progs 3.0 (not Sun) 5.0, 7.0, 9.0. A BRILLIANT FILM — HAROLD PINTER.

GATE, BLOOMSBURY 1 and 2. 837 8402/1177. Russell Sq Tube. 1: A PRIVATE FUNCTION (15) 2.0, 3.45, 5.30, 7.15, 9.0. 2: BADLANDS (18) 4.0, 7.30. EASY RIDER (18) 2.15, 5.45, 9.15. Tomorrow JOUR DE FETE (U) 1.55, 4.50, 7.50. MONSIEUR HULOT'S HOLIDAY (U) 3.15, 6.10, 9.10.

GATE, NOTTING HILL. 221 0220/727 5750. THE HUNGER (18) 2.30, 6.40. LAST TANGO IN PARIS (18) 4.20, 8.30. L.N. 11.15 pm. THE BLUES BROTHERS (15) UP IN SMOKE (18) 2.50, 7.00. BLADE RUNNER (15) 4.50, 9.00.

ICA CINEMA, The Mall, SW1. 930 3647. The uncut version of WALERIAN BOROWCZYK'S DR JEKYLL (18 yrs plus only) with Udo Kier, Patrick Magee, Marina Pierro. "A film of strange and outrageous beauty." Time Out. Tues-Sun 5.00, 7.00 & 9.00. ICA Cinematheque BORWCZYK RETROSPECTIVE 6.30 THE BEAST (1975 sub) 8.30 IMMORAL TALES (1974 sub) ICA Children's Cinema Club Sat & Sun 3.00 EAGLE'S WING (6 years up) All seats bookable.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES (15) Sep Progs Dly 2.0, 5.45, 8.35. Late Night Show Sat 11.45 pm. Advance Booking for 5.45, 8.35 perfs. Weekends and Late Night Shows. Telephone Bookings with Access and Visa welcome.

LUMIERE CINEMA 836 0691. St Martins Lane WC2 (nearest Tube Leicester Sq). Edgar Reitz's highly acclaimed HEIMAT (15). Showing in Four Parts. TODAY Part One at 12.45 pm and Part Two at 6.45 pm. SEATS BOOKABLE for all Four Parts or each separate Part. Telephone for details.

MINEMA KNIGHTSBRIDGE. 235 4225. Exclusive presentation of Eva Mattes in A MAN LIKE EVA (18). Daily at 3.0, 5.0, 7.0, 9.0. HURRY! MUST END THURS. FEB. 28. All seats £3.25. (No Membership) Students, UB40, OAP £2 at 3.0 & 5.0 perf. Mon to Fri.

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE. 928 3232. NFT1: 2.00 UNCHANGED HEART IN LIFE AND DEATH (A) (China 1956). NFT1: 4.00 ANNIE (U) (USA 1981) (Tickets £1.20 children, £2.40 adults). Dolby stereo. NFT2: 6.15 PEOPLE ON SUNDAY (PA) (Germany 1930). NFT2: 8.30 RED SKIRTS ON CLYDESIDE (GB 1983). STRIPPERS (GB 1983) / FRIDA KAHLO AND TINA MODOTTI (GB 1982).

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738) THE KEY (18) Sep progs Sun 4.15 only. Sep progs Wks. 2.0, 5.0, 8.10. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111). Info 930 4250/4259. BRAZIL (15). Sep. progs. Doors open Dly 1.15, 4.30, 7.45. Late Night show Fri & Sat. Doors open 11.15 pm. Advance booking for 7.45 perf. Access and Visa 'phone bookings welcome. Credit Hot Line 839 1929, 24 hour service. £3 seats Monday all perfs.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (723 2011). GHOSTBUSTERS (PG) in 70mm. Sep progs Doors open Dly 2.0, 5.0, 8.0. Reduced prices for under 16's.

PHOENIX, East Finchley. 883 2233. MARIA'S LOVERS (15) at 4.10, 6.15 & 8.25. Ends 28th. Fri/Sat at 11 pm THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (15) & MYRA BRECKINRIDGE (18).

SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366. London Kemp's Dazzling, Magical, Erotic A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (15) 3.25, 5.15, 7.15, 9.15. Lic Bar. Seats Bookable. Late Show 11.15 pm David Bowie ZIGGY STARDUST (PG) Harrison Ford BLADE RUNNER (15).

SCREEN ON BAKER ST. 935 2772. 1 TALKING HEADS in STOP MAKING SENSE (PG) 3.20, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10, 11.15. 2 PARIS TEXAS (15) 2.30, 5.30, 8.30, 11.15. Lic Bar. Tickets Bookable.

SCREEN ON ISLINGTON GREEN. 226 3520. Hurry, Last Weeks. THE KILLING FIELDS (15) in Dolby Stereo 2.30, 5.15, 8.15, 11.15. Tickets bookable.

THE SCREEN AT THE ELECTRIC. 229 3694. One Week Only: THE SWING (PG) 4.10, 8.50. CELESTE (15) 2.0 (not Sun) 6.40. Mats £2. Late Show 11.15 Sam Peckinpah's THE ENTITY (18) Sam Fuller's THE OSTERMAN WEEKEND (18). Sun Mat 2.30 WHITE DOG (15).

OPERA AND BALLET

London

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN. Resv. 01-240 1066/1911. Access, Visa, Diners Club. S Standby info. 01-836 6903. 65 amphi seats avail. from 10 am on the day. Tickets Opera £2.00-£34.00. Ballet £1.00-£20.00.

THE ROYAL OPERA Ton't, Thur 7.30 Samson.

THE ROYAL BALLET Mon, Tues 7.30 Ballet Imperial, L'Invitation au voyage / Different Drummer. Wed, Fri 7.30 The Sleeping Beauty. Ballet Casting info 01-240 9815.

COLISEUM S 836 3161 CC 240 5258

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't, Thur 7.0 XERXES. Wed 7.0 last perf ANNA KARENINA. Fri 5.0 (please note early start) last perf TRISTRAN AND ISOLDE (not suppervised). Also Booking Count Ory, Fidelio. The Bartered Bride. CC Tickermaster 01-379 6212.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916. Group Sales 930 6123. Booking Now BALLET RAMBERT. BALLET DE MONTREAL. LINDSAY KEMP. Tel 278 0855 for Brochure.

THEATRES London

ADELPHI. 836 7611. CC. 741 9999/836 7358. Group Sales 930 6123. THE LAMBETH WALK — LEANING ON A LAMP POST — SUN HAS GOT HIS HAT ON. MUSICAL COMEDY. **"SENSATIONAL. WILL BECOME THE SHOW OF THE YEAR" D. Exp. ME AND MY GIRL** ROBERT LINDSAY, FRANK THORNTON, EMMA THOMPSON AND DAZZLING CO. OF 60. DIRECTED BY MIKE OCKRENT. "THIS IS A GREAT PRODUCTION" BBC. "A RESOUNDING HIT" S. Mirror. "TRIUMPHANT" D. Mail. "HAS A MODERN AUDIENCE HYSTERICAL WITH DELIGHT" S. Tel. "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" S. Exp. Many performances in February and March are SOLD OUT. 35,000 have got tickets. To help the others the Box Office has to be open seven days a week. Oi! Nightly at 7.30. Mats. Wed. 2.30 & Sat. 4.45 & 8.15.

ALBERY. 836 3878. CC 379 6565/379 6433. Grp. Sales 930 6123/836 3962. Evgs. 8.00. Thurs. Mat 3.00. Sat 5.00 & 8.15. PATRICK MOWER, ADRIENNE POSTA, ROYCE MILLS, ISABELLE AMYES in **THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH** The Famous Comedy by GEORGE AXELROD. Directed by JAMES ROOSE-EVANS. Pre-Show Dinner Tourment d'Amour Stalls or Circle seats £15.40.

ALDWYCH THEATRE. 836 6404/0641. CC 379 6233. Group Sales 930 6123. Mon.-Thur 8. Fri. & Sat. 5 & 8.30. **ROWAN ATKINSON IS THE NERD** by LARRY SHUE. Directed by MIKE OCKRENT. "An ambulatory Amityville Horror . . . a wonderful display of grotesque comedy." Guardian. **"Rib-Shatteringly Funny" T.O. "Blissfully Ludicrous" F.T.** TICKETS NOW AVAIL ON THE DAY FOR ALL MON.-THURS. PERFS. LAST 4 WKS OF LIMITED SEASON.

ALDWYCH THEATRE. 01-836 6404/0641. CC 379 6233. Reduced Price Previews from March 22. OPENING APRIL 1. PAUL EDDINGTON & FELICITY KENDAL, SIMON CADELL in TOM STOPPARD'S **JUMPERS** with ANDREW SACHS. Directed by PETER WOOD.

AMBASSADORS. 836 6111 cc 741 9999. Grp Sales 930 6123. Last perf Ton't 8.0. LITTLE THEATRE OF COMEDY. SHEILA STEAFEL in **STEAFEL EXPRESS** "Wickedly good . . . voraciously funny" F.T.

AMBASSADORS 836 6111. CC 741 9999. Grp Sales 930 6123. Prev. Mon 8.0. Opens Tues. 7.0. Subs. Evgs 8.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30. LITTLE THEATRE OF COMEDY **KELLY MONTEITH IN ONE**

APOLLO VICTORIA. 828 8665. CC 630 6262. Group Sales 930 6123. **STARLIGHT EXPRESS** Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER. Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE. Directed by TREVOR NUNN. "A MUSICAL THAT SURPASSES ANYTHING AROUND IN EVERY DIMENSION." D. Exp. Evgs. 7.45. Mats. Tue & Sat 3.0. BOX OFFICE OPEN 10 am-8 pm. A limited number of seats avail. for Tues. Mat. limited to 2 per person. Some £2 standing room tickets are avail. ½ hour before every performance for the unwaged and students.

ARTS THEATRE. 836 2132/3324. GLC BLACK THEATRE SEASON. Evgs. 8. Asian Co-operative Theatre presents VIGILANTS.

ASTORIA THEATRE. Box Office / CC 734 4287/8/9. Group Sales 930 6123. GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! (Lit Rev) **THE HIRED MAN** AN EPIC LOVE STORY BY MELVYN BRAGG & HOWARD GOODALL. BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER. **"THE BEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR"** Intl. Herald Tribune. LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARDS 84. PAUL CLARKSON — BEST ACTOR. Evgs 8.0. Mats Wed 3.0. Sat. 4.0. NOW BOOKING TO MAY. Wed. mats. all seats £7.50 & £5.

BARBICAN. 01-628 8795/638 8891. CC (Mon.-Sun. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.). For inclusive hotel package 01-330 7111. **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** BARBICAN THEATRE: MOTHER COURAGE by Brecht. "A masterpiece." D. Tel. today 2.0 & 7.30. In rep. to Thurs. (runs 3 hrs. 10). Day seats £5 from 10 am. THE PIT: BREAKING THE SILENCE by Stephen Poliakoff. "Spellbinding." S. Times. today 2.0 & 7.30 (runs 2¼ hrs).

BUSH THEATRE 743 3388. RUMBLINGS By Peter Gibbs. Tues. to Sun. 8 pm.

COMEDY. 01-930 2578. CC 839 1438. Evgs 8.0. Fri and Sat 6.0 & 8.45. **THE MONSTER MUSICAL HIT LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS** 2nd FINGER LICKIN' YEAR!! **"I LOVED IT—HOPE IT RUNS FOR A 1,000 YEARS" — T. Out.** SEATS AT SOME PERFS FROM £6. Group Sales Box Office 930 6123.

COTTESLOE. 928 2252 CC 928 5933 'S' (National Theatre's small auditorium — low price tkts). Today 2.30, then Feb. 27 THE NATIVITY. Ton't, Mon 7.30, then March 25 DOOMSDAY. Today 11 am Lecture/Demonstration on the Passion. 45 min platform perf all tkts £1.80.

CRITERION. S 930 3216. CC 379 6565/741 9999. 379 6433. Groups 836 3962. Evgs 8.0. Mats Thurs. 2.30. Sat 5.30 & 8.30. BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST. The Theatre of Comedy Company. ROBIN ASKWITH, JACK SMETHURST, PETER SALLIS in **RUN FOR YOUR WIFE** Written and directed by RAY COONEY. Over 800 side-splitting perfs. "SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE." S. Exp. Special Theatre Dinner Criterion Brasserie/Stalls or Circle Tkt £14.60.

DONMAR WAREHOUSE. Earlham St. Cov Gdn 379 6565. 379 6433. HULL TRUCK at 7.30. **1984 COMEDY OF THE YEAR UP 'N' UNDER** At 10 pm BOUNCERS (Ends 11.10). Written and directed by John Godber. Tickets £3.90 to £4.90. MUST END TONIGHT!!

DONMAR WAREHOUSE. Earlham St. Cov Gdn 379 6565. CC 379 6433. From Monday. DRUID THEATRE CO. IRELAND in **PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD** Evgs 7.30 (Feb 26 at 7.0). 2 seats for the price of 1 every Mon.

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL. 01-836 8108. 01-240 9066. 01-240 9067. David Merrick's **42ND STREET** "The show has now swept up all the top prizes for musicals." D. Exp. **BEST MUSICAL** Standard Drama Award. "Exhilarating" D. Tel. **BEST MUSICAL** Laurence Olivier Award. "Dazzling." D. Mail. **BEST MUSICAL** Plays and Players London Theatre Critics Award. "You won't find a show in London with more razzle dazzle" D. Exp. Evgs 8.0. Mats Wed 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.30. Group Sales 01-930 6123. Booking until July. BOX OFFICE OPEN Mon.-Sat. 10 am-8 pm.

DUCHESS THEATRE. 836 8243. 240 9648. Reduced price previews March 4, 5 & 6 at 7.30. Opens March 7 at 7.00. COLIN BLAKELY, DOROTHY TUTIN in **OTHER PLACES** by Harold Pinter. Directed by Kenneth Ives. Evgs Mon-Thurs 7.30. Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.30.

DUKE OF YORK'S. S 836 5122. CC 836 9837/379 6433. Grp Sales 930 6123. Evgs 8. Mat Thu 3. Sat 5 & 8.30. "TRIUMPH ON TAP" Eve Std. **STEPPING OUT** The Hit Comedy by Richard Harris. Directed by Julia McKenzie. **COMEDY OF THE YEAR** Standard Drama Award 1984. "LAUGH YOURSELF SILLY" T. Out. "Had the first night audience yelling for more." D. Mail. "Must surely take the town . . . GO NOW" D. Tel. "Roars of approval." Times. "It's going to tap, tap, tap forever." N o W. "A brand new All Dancing, All Joking Smash Hit Comedy . . . A GREAT EVENING." BBC.

FORTUNE 'S' 836 2238. CC. Mon. 7.0. sub evgs 8.0. Thurs. & Sat. Mats. 3.0. From Monday for 3 weeks only. **MARGARET WOLFIT** Dramatises George Eliot's **THE MILL ON THE FLOSS**

GARRICK. S. CC 01-836 4601. Evgs 8.0. Wed. Mat. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.0. 14th HYSTERICAL YEAR. LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD. **NO SEX, PLEASE — WE'RE BRITISH** 2 HOURS OF NON-STOP LAUGHTER. Directed by Allan Davis. CC 379 6433. Group Sales 930 6123. OVER 5,500 FANTASTIC PERFS.

GLOBE. CC 437 1592. Andrew Lloyd Webber presents the **COMEDY OF THE YEAR** Soc of West End Theatre Award 83. **DAISY PULLS IT OFF** By Denise Deegan. Directed by David Gilmore. "ABSOLUTELY SPIFFING." D. Tel. "FULL MARKS FOR DAISY." Std. "A gold star to Daisy for a delightful show." Daily Mail. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 4.0. Group Sales 930 6123. "THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE HOOT & A SCREAM." Sunday Times. SECOND GREAT YEAR.

GREENWICH THEATRE 01-858 7755. Evenings 7.45. Mats. Sat. 2.30. MY BROTHER'S KEEPER by NIGEL WILLIAMS. "A very good new play . . . witty as well as touching." Gdn. "The acting and production are impeccable." S. Times.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301. Susan Wooldridge, Marjorie Yates in 'NIGHT, MOTHER by Marsha Norman. Prevs. to March 1, 8.15. March 2, 5.0 & 15. Opens March 4, 7.0.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 930 9832. Group Sales 930 6123. **MAGGIE SMITH, JOAN PLOWRIGHT & MICHAEL JAYSTON in** THE CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE PRODUCTION OF **THE WAY OF THE WORLD** Directed by William Gaskill. "Maggie Smith returns to our stage in glory." F. Times. "The most outstanding achievement was that of Joan Plowright." Std. "William Gaskill's superb production." Punch. Evgs 7.30. Mats Wed 2.30. Sat 3.0. Maggie Smith, Actress of the Year, Standard Drama Award.

HER MAJESTY'S 01-930 6606. CC 01-930 4025. Group Sales 930 6123. **WEST SIDE STORY** "FINGER CLICKING GOOD." Std. "THE BEST MUSICAL EVER WRITTEN" City Limits. Mon-Fri. Evgs. 7.30. Sat. 4.45 & 8.0. Mat. Wed. 2.30. ALL PERFS TO END MAY NOW ON SALE.

KING'S HEAD. 226 1916. Dnr 6.45. Show 7.45. MEET ME AT THE GATE. "A magical history tour . . . a glorious feeling for the period." Tms. "Delectable anthology . . . a King's Head success." Obs. Last perf. Ton't.

LONDON PALLADIUM 01-437 7373. Evenings 7.30. Mats Wed & Sat 2.45. MATINEE TODAY 2.45. SEATS AVAILABLE AT DOORS. LONDON'S GREAT STAR-STUDDED SPECTACULAR MUSICAL. **TOMMY STEELE in SINGIN' IN THE RAIN** with ROY CASTLE. "TOMMY STEELE'S MERE PRESENCE ON THE STAGE LIGHTS UP THE ENTIRE THEATRE." S. Times. BOOKING OPEN FOR ALL PERFORMANCES TO NEXT JUNE. Credit Cards 01-437 2055/734 8961. Night/Sunday Answerphone 01-437 6892.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH. S. CC 741 2311. Evgs 7.45. Mat. Thur 2.30. Sat. 4.0. LITTLE EYOLF by Ibsen with Cheryl Campbell, Anne Dyson, Paul Moriarty, Ronald Pickup, Diana Rigg.

LYRIC STUDIO: Evgs 8.0. A STATE OF AFFAIRS by Graham Swannell.

LYRIC, Shaftesbury Ave. 437 3686/7. CC 434 1050. 434 1550. Evgs. 8.0. Wed. Mats 3.0. Sats 5.30 & 8.30. FOR A LIMITED SEASON. THE NATIONAL THEATRE PRODUCTION. JULIE WALTERS, IAN CHARLESON **FOOL FOR LOVE** by Sam Shepard. Directed by Peter Gill. "Blazingly impressive performances in a throat-clutcher of a play." Mail on Sunday.

LYTTELTON. 928 2252. CC 928 5933 'S' (National Theatre's proscenium stage). Low price previews Ton't, Mon., Tue. 7.45. Opens Feb. 27 at 7.0, then Feb 28 to March 2, March 11 to 14. THE ROAD TO MECCA by Athol Fugard.

MAYFAIR. S. CC 629 3036. Mon.-Thur 8. Fri./Sat. 5.40 & 8.10. Grp. 930 6123. **RICHARD TODD** ERIC LANDER, ANNETTE ANDRE. **THE BUSINESS OF MURDER** The Hit Thriller by Richard Harris. "The best thriller for years." S. Mir. "An unabashed winner." S. Exp. "A thriller that achieves it all . . . Sensational." Times. "The most ingenious mystery to have appeared in a decade." . . . A play to be seen." D. Mail. **5th GREAT YEAR** OVER 1,600 PERFORMANCES.

MERMAID THEATRE. The New Shakespeare Company in Association with Lloyds Bank present **SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOPS** EXPLORING HAMLET & OTHELLO. Seats avail Mar 11, 13, all other perfs SOLD OUT. THE ROMAN TRAGEDIES. Julius Caesar and Antony & Cleopatra. March 18, 19, 20, 22. 11.30 am-3 pm with Lunchbreak. All seats £2.50. Workshop Tel. 01-935 5756 / 5884 or write NSC, Open Air Theatre, Regents Park, London NW1.

MERMAID THEATRE 01-236 5568. LOU HIRSCH, CLIVE MANTLE and SUSAN PENHALIGON in **OF MICE AND MEN** STEINBECK'S Timeless Masterpiece. Over 100 Performances. Group Sales 01-930 6123. CC 01-741 9999 (not fees) any Keith Prowse no booking fee. Evgs. 7.30. Tues & Thur. Mats 3.0. Licensed Food Bar open 12-3 pm & 5-7 pm.

NATIONAL THEATRE. South Bank. **NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY** See SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER LYTTELTON COTTESLOE. Excellent cheap seats day of perf all three theatres from 10 am. RESTAURANT (928 2033). CHEAP EASY CAR PARK.

NEW LONDON. Drury Lane WC2. 01-405 0072 or CC 01-404 4079. Evgs 7.45. Tue & Sat 3.0 & 7.45. THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL **CATS** Group Bookings 01-405 1567 or 01-930 6123. Apply daily to Box Office for returns. LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open 6.45 pm. Now Booking to June 1, 1985. Alternative CC Bookings 379 6131. Postal applications now being accepted for June 3-Aug 31, 1985. THE LONGER YOU WAIT THE LONGER YOU'LL WAIT.

OLD VIC. 928 7616. CC 261 1821. Evgs 7.30. Wed Mats 2.30. Sats 4.0 & 7.45. ANTHONY HOPKINS, SAMANTHA EGGAR, ALAN DOBIE, COLIN FIRTH in **THE LONELY ROAD** by Arthur Schnitzler. Directed by Christopher Fettes. "TRIUMPHANT . . . A MASTERWORK." Gdn. "ANTHONY HOPKINS A SENSITIVE AND TELLING PERFORMANCE." S. Tel. "IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE TO SEE MR HOPKINS BACK ON STAGE." Times. "A POWERFUL . . . EMOTIONAL DRAMA." Gdn. SO EASY, SO SIMPLE TO BOOK — JUST TELEPHONE 01-261 1821 AND CHARGE IT TO YOUR CREDIT CARD NOW. NO BOOKING FEE. SEE 4 SHOWS INC THE LONELY ROAD FOR AS LITTLE AS £2.50 EACH!

OLIVIER. 928 2252. CC 928 5933 'S' (National Theatre's open stage). Today 2.00 (low price mat) & 7.15, then March 7 to 13 CORIOLANUS by Shakespeare. Mon 7.15, then Feb 28 to March 2 & March 22 & 23 THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR.

PALACE THEATRE 437 6834. CC 437 8327 / 379 6433. Grp Sales 930 6123. **THE MOST WINNING MUSICAL** GALINA PANOVA, HONOR BLACKMAN, JOHN BENNETT, TIM FLAVIN in RODGERS & HART'S **ON YOUR TOES** with SIOBHAN McCARTHY and NICHOLAS JOHNSON. On Wednesday Evening & Saturday Matinee the leading role will be played by DOREEN WELLS. "ON YOUR TOES contains more joy than anything else on the London stage." — Gdn. "One of the biggest theatrical fireworks in London" — S. Times. "SHEER BLISS" — D. Tel. Evgs 7.45. Mat Thurs & Sat 2.30. Pre-theatre buffet from 6.45.

PALACE THEATRE BAR, Cambridge Circus 437 6834. **LUNCHTIME** FOOD, MUSIC, WINE & ART ENTERTAINMENT DAILY AT 1 PM. ADM. FREE. FULLY LICENSED 11-3. PUB PRICES.

PHOENIX THEATRE. 240 9661. CC 836 2294/379 6433. Grp. Sales 930 6123. Mon.-Thur 7.45. Fri./Sat 5.30 & 8.30. **GRIFF RHYS JONES** GWEN TAYLOR in **TRUMPETS & RASPBERRIES** A New Comedy by DARIO FO. "INSPIRED CLOWNING." S. TEL. "INSPIRED FUN." STANDARD. "INSPIRED INVENTION." D. MAIL. "INSPIRED NONSENSE." F. TIMES. **"BLISSFULLY FUNNY." Times**

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. CC 379 6565, 379 6433, 741 9999. Group Sales 930 6123. 836 3962. Evgs. 8.0. Fri. & Sat 6.0 & 8.45. Paul Jones, Kiki Dee, Brian Protheroe, Gary Holton, Carlene Carter, Julian Littman. THE ACCLAIMED FUN MUSICAL **PUMP BOYS AND DINETTES** "IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO HAVE A GOOD TIME." BBC. "Non-stop action. It's just one heck of a lot of fun." D. Mirror.

PRINCE EDWARD. Tel. 01-437 6877. S. Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's **EVITA THE GIANT OF MUSICALS** Directed by Hal Prince. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. at 3.0. CC Hotline 439 8499. 379 6433. 631 1101. 741 9999. Group Sales 930 6123.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. **RUSS IS BACK** IN LONDON'S ALL LAUGHTER COMEDY MUSICAL. 01-930 8681/2. CC Hotline 01-930 0844/5/6. Group Sales 01-930 6123. **RUSS ABBOT** SHEILA WHITE in **LITTLE ME** "AMONG THE GREAT BLOCKBUSTING MUSICALS OF OUR TIME." D. Mail. "POSITIVELY SPARKLES." S. Exp. "THE FUNNIEST MUSICAL NEW YORK EVER SENT US" D. Tel. Evgs. 7.30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. 3.0. Special rate for OAPs/Students/Children (at certain performances). Reduced price Thurs. mats.

PRINCE OF WALES 01-930 8681/2. CC HOTLINE 01-930 0844/5/6. Group Sales 01-930 6123. K Prowse 01-741 9999. THE NATIONAL THEATRE'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL **GUYS AND DOLLS** Opens June 19 — Booking through January 86.

QUEENS THEATRE. 734 1166. 734 1767. 734 0261. 734 0120. 439 3849. 439 4031. Grp Sls 930 6123. **CHARLTON HESTON and BEN CROSS in HERMAN WOUK'S THE CAINE MUTINY COURT-MARTIAL** Royal Charity Preview Tues. Feb 26, at 7.30. Reduced price prevs Wed 27 Feb. at 3.00 & 7.30. Opens Thur. Feb 28, at 7.0. Sub. evgs. Mon.-Fri. 7.30. Sat. 8.15. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sats. 5.0.

RAYMOND SHOWBAR AT LA VIE EN ROSE CC at Windmill Street W1. 437 6312/8380. Paul Raymond presents A Sensational New Concept in Erotic Entertainment **RAZZLE DAZZLE BURLESQUE SHOW** A Full Frontal Erotic Exposure Taken to unprecedented limits what is sexually permissible on the London stage. Two shows nightly 9 pm and 11 pm. Open from 7.30 pm. Licensed until 3 am.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR. CC 734 1593. Mon.-Sat. 7 p.m. 9 p.m. 11 p.m. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. Now! More new acts, more new thrills, more new sensations. The world's centre of erotic entertainment. 28th Great Year.

ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745. EDWARD BOND SEASON. MUST END March 9. SAVED Today until Feb 28. THE POPE'S WEDDING March 1-4. "Neither production should be missed . . ." FT. 8 pm, Sat. Mats. 5 pm.

SAVOY. Box Office 01-836 8888. CC 01-379 6219, 836 0479. Evgs. 7.45. Mat Wed 3.0. Saturday 5.0 & 8.30. **THE AWARD-WINNING WEST-END AND BROADWAY COMEDY HIT** MICHAEL MEDWIN, JOSEPHINE TEWSON, HUGH PADDICK, ROLAND CURRAM, DILYS WATLING, PHILIP BIRD. **NOISES OFF** Directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE. "After two years Michael Frayn's comedy is still wildly funny" — Tms. OVER 1,200 PERFORMANCES.

SHAFTESBURY. 379 5399. CC 741 9999. Grp Sales 930 6123. Evgs 8.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30. Wed Mat 3.0. THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY. DONALD SINDEN "A Great Master" Std. MICHAEL WILLIAMS "Truly hilarious" Std. BARBARA MURRAY and LIONEL JEFFRIES in **TWO INTO ONE** Written and directed by RAY COONEY. "The most hilarious production yet mounted by Mr Cooney's Theatre of Comedy" F.T. "CLASSIC . . . FIRST RATE FARCE." Gdn.

SHAW THEATRE. Euston Rd. 01-388 1394. Until March 2. Tues. 7.30. 7.84 Theatre Co England present **THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND** A play with music by Peter Cox. Tkts £5, £3. Block Bkgs 10 or more all tickets £5.

ST MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Special CC No. 01-379 6433. Evgs. 8.0. Tues 2.45. Sats 5.0 & 8.0. AGATHA CHRISTIE'S **THE MOUSETRAP** 33rd Year. SORRY, no reduced prices from any source but seats bkble. from £3.50.

STRAND. W.C.2. 01-836 2660/4143/5190. Opening March 5 at 7.0. Subs evgs 8.0. Mats Wed. 2.30 (ex March 6). Sats 5.30 & 8.30. RICHARD BRIERS, DIANE FLETCHER, POLLY HEMINGWAY in **WHY ME?** A New Comedy by STANLEY PRICE with LIZ SMITH. Directed by ROBERT CHETWYN.

TRICYCLE. 328 8626. Last perf. Ton't at 8 p.m. BOUNCING CZECKS. From Wed to Mar 16 Cartoon.

VAUDEVILLE 01 836 9987. 836 5645. Evgs 7.45. Wed 2.30. Sat 5.0 & 8.30. WINNER OF ALL 3 MAJOR AWARDS. **BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR** Standard Drama Award. Laurence Olivier Award. Plays & Players London Critics Award. POLLY ADAMS, CLIVE FRANCIS, JAN WATERS, GLYN GRAIN. MICHAEL FRAYN'S NEW PLAY **BENEFACTORS** Directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE.

VICTORIA PALACE 01-834 1317. Evgs 7.30. Matinees Wed & Sat 2.45. **BOOKING NOW OPEN. REDUCED PRICE PREVIEWS** on Mar 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13 at 7.30. OPENS MARCH 14. **MICHAEL CRAWFORD in BARNUM**

WYNDHAM'S. 836 3028. CC 741 9999. 379 6565. 379 6433. Grps. 930 6123. 836 3962. Evgs 8.0. Wed. Mat 3.0. Sat 5.0 and 8.15. "A VERY FUNNY SHOW." Obs. SUE TOWNSEND'S THE SECRET DIARY OF **ADRIAN MOLE AGED 13¾** Music and Lyrics by KEN HOWARD & ALAN BLAIKLEY. "LIVELY, SPARKISH HUMOUR." Gdn. "ACUTE AND FUNNY." Std.

YOUNG VIC. 928 6363. Until March 16 HAMLET. Evgs. 7.0. Wed & Fri Mats 1.30. "The best Shakespeare at the Young Vic for years." — D.T.

Regional

LEEDS PLAYHOUSE, Calverley St. 0532 442111. CC. Until March 16 OUR DAY OUT by Willy Russell. SUBSCRIBE NOW & SEE 5 PLAYS FROM JUST £11!

LIVERPOOL EVERYMAN 051 709 4776. Jan 24-Feb 23. 7 pm. Sat 8 pm. Shakespeare's ROMEO & JULIET. Tickets from £1.00.

NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE. Box Office (0602) 419419. Feb 6-March 9. A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS by Robert Bolt. Starring Kenneth Farrington as Sir Thomas More and Clive Howells as The Common Man.

OLDHAM COLISEUM. Until March 9 at 7.30 pm. THE DEEP BLUE SEA by Terence Rattigan. For ticket information ring Box Office 061-624 2829.

PALACE THEATRE

OXFORD ST., MANCHESTER. Box Office Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Today at 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm. **CHARLTON HESTON BEN CROSS in HERMAN WOUK'S THE CAINE MUTINY COURT-MARTIAL** Tickets from £4.50 still available. Last two performances.

Tomorrow at 7.30 pm. **OPERA GALA NIGHT** with Rosalind Plowright in aid of Buxton Festival. Tickets £3-£12.50.

Next was' **JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** Tickets from £2.50. Until March 9.

SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS The blockbuster MGM musical now on stage. Tickets from £3.50 with huge concessions for groups. March 12 to April 6.

OPERA NORTH La Traviata, Tamburlaine, and the Gondoliers. Tickets from £4-£16. April 9-13.

GUYS AND DOLLS The National Theatre's Award-winning Production on the National Tour prior to the West End. "An exhilarating revival of the classic American musical 'Guys and Dolls' . . . in the West End this show could run for ever." John Barber, Daily Telegraph. Tickets from £4.50. April 17 to May 11.

BOX OFFICE 061-236 9922. CREDIT CARDS 061-236 8012. GROUP BKGS. 061-236 9926.

THE OPERA HOUSE MANCHESTER

COMING SHORTLY. **THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE** STARRING PAUL NICHOLAS, BONNIE LANGFORD, VICTOR SPINETTI & DILYS LAYE. The swashbuckling smash-hit musical direct from New York and London. "the best production in New York" Harpers & Queen.

Opening on March 6 for a season with reduced price previews on March 2, 4 & 5. Box Office Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets from £4.50.

BOX OFFICE 061-831 7766. CREDIT CARDS 061-831 7733. GROUP BKGS. 061-831 7409.

ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE. Today at 4.0 & 8.0 p.m. **TREVOR PEACOCK'S EXCITING NEW MUSICAL CLASS K** "exuberant performances" . . . "the show is . . . superb" F Times. Until March 9. Tickets from £2.50.

Booking now for Eugene O'Neill's **LONG DAYS JOURNEY INTO NIGHT** Opens March 14 and **THREE SISTERS** by Anton Chekov. Translated by Michael Frayn. Opens April 11.

Today at 1 pm. Friday, March 1 at 11 pm. **FEN** by Caryl Churchill. Tickets £1.50.

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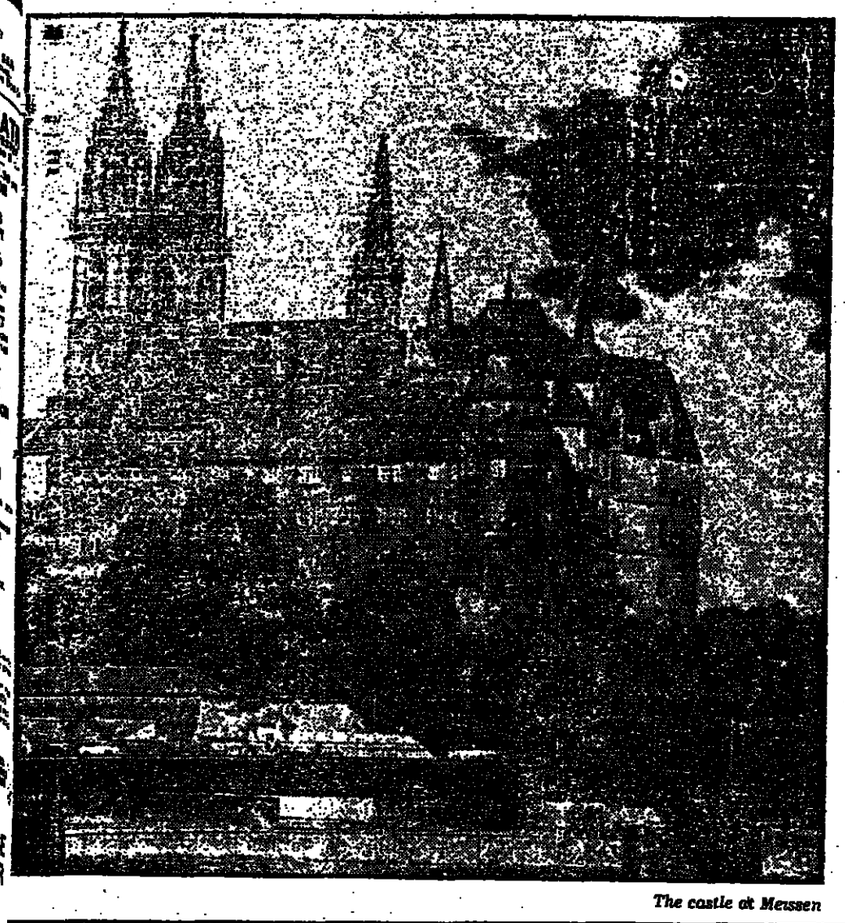
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The castle at Meissen

Michael Simmons takes the road from Meissen to the home of Goethe and Schiller

Stars to follow in the east

DISARMINGLY and paradoxically, there are those in the travel business in the German Democratic Republic who still claim their country is not really "geared" to tourism. In a sense, they are right; but in a hundred other senses, they are totally wrong. More accurate would be to say that though the country has hills and the sea, history and hospitality, it has yet to reach the relaxed stage where the visitors can honestly feel that they can come and go as they please.

But, it is a country well worth the trouble and, arguably, that extra bit of expense. Karl Marx may have been a (West) German who came to live in London, but hundreds of his fellow countrymen and women, from Martin Luther onwards, hailed from the east to become over a period of centries the stuff of European thought, religion and culture.

The good news is that the authorities know this, even to the extent of piecing together packages for Bach lovers Luther tours, or Goethe-und-Schiller excursions, as well as packages tailor-made for more particular tastes. The less good news is that while there are ways of staying with friends in their houses and of hopping from camp-site to camp-site, bed-and-breakfast levels of informality are hard to come by. There are plenty of moderately priced three-star hotels, but a cup of coffee on the impulse in East Berlin or elsewhere may not be easy.

Where to start? One centre might be Dresden, in parts rebuilt and restored, as recent newspapers have testified, to recapture some of the old renaissance and baroque splendours. Well worth seeing in its own right, if only to discuss its post-war re-birth and to participate in its musical activities, and to see the rebuilt Semper Opera House, a glory retrieved stone by heavy stone, brush-stroke by painstaking brush-stroke. The royal palace is next for rebuilding and should, one of these days, be a joy to behold.

But half an hour or so out of Dresden by car — a couple of hours by Elbe river-steamer — lies the town of Meissen. Or rather, the castle and the cathedral rear up in medieval splendour high above the river, giving even the tiredest Instamatic owner a worthwhile shot. The winding route up cobbled streets to the top is very satisfying. For linguists, it was here that Walther von der Vogelweide lived; for mothers-in-law and others, it was here — not down the road — that Dresden china was first produced; and for the rest of us, there is a small handful of good eating houses.

In addition, the Albrechtsburg castle, the cathedral, the bishops' palace and ancillary buildings are all in the same complex and worth a day of anyone's time. The castle boasts about its pictures dating from the 14th century onwards, but by no means all are worth lingering over; much more satisfying, if your guide will hold the lamp still for long enough, is the altar painting by Louis Cranach the Elder, which is a wealth of vivid colour and detail, enhanced by the marked austerity of its 13th-century surroundings.

Down in the lower town, in Liberation Street, there is the Dresden china museum. Apparently, the competition today to become a decorator of porcelain is so intense, and the competition so talented, that even a young Renoir might have had difficulty getting a job. There are some lovely things to see from the 18th century, as well as a demonstration workshop showing what productivity means in today's Socialist climate.

Staying in the south of the country, a few hours by car to the West will take you to the gentle charm of Weimar. Here the constitution of the first post-imperial Reich was drawn up, but here too Goethe loved and languished for more than 50 years of his long life — and Schiller too. Johann Sebastian Bach had earlier been Court organist and composer for a spell.

The Goethe house is a joy even if one does not revere Goethe — as so many Germans do. You can visit rooms, still apparently furnished with items bought by the man himself, stand where visitors were received and harangued by him, even peer at the collection of minerals that, among so many other things, he so avidly collected.

Little more than a stone's throw away, at the entrance to the Goethe Park, is the elegant home of the von Stein family. Charlotte was the "close friend" (GDR guide-book language) of Goethe for many years, the *Lotte of Weimar*, and inspirer of a number of his more or less wistful works.

The park was laid out in collaboration with the man himself, and includes an artificial "ruin" or two as well as his own equivalent of the boat-house, where he is said to have done much of his writing. A little away from the town centre, further into the park is the house where Franz Liszt lived the last dozen or so years of his wayward life and died. It, too, has become a museum.

Once sated with the minutiae of Weimar (there are others too numerous to mention here) the determined tourist might want to go on an hour or two further to Erfurt. Here, to stand in the centre of the Cathedral Square and look up at the tower of the Cathedral and the spires of the St Severi Church close by is to revisit the fifteenth century in a way hardly possible anywhere else in Europe. There is a bridge, off the old Fish Market, where some timber-framed burgher houses dating from 1472 can be seen. The older parts of the town make one ache for Martin Luther to step forward, ranting in his student's garb of the wrath he saw to come

These three towns, and dozens more, are all to be found in the pleasantly wooded southern part of the GDR, all within comfortable motoring distance of the main east-west autobahn. Many have hotels in or not far from the centre where, so long as you are firm about your dates, you can book ahead with the appropriate travel agency.

For further information about travel in East Germany contact Berolina Travel Limited, GDR Tourist Office, 20 Conduit Street, London W1. (01-629 1664). Dan Air in conjunction with German Facility Tours (01-229 2474) arrange charter flights to West Berlin from £88 return for tourists wishing to cross into East Berlin by road or metrolink. Currency: £1=3.2855 Marks, check with banks or Berolina for details of currency restrictions.

Ian Crawford doesn't care much for saints who 'leave bits of themselves distributed all over the place,' but he overcomes the prejudice in Umbria

When the saints come marching in — capitulate

UMBRIA lies landlocked at the heart of Italy, the only province from the foothills of the Alps to the southernmost point of Sicily, not to have a seacoast. This gives it a particular air of intimacy, as if its eclusion somehow made it more Italian than anywhere else in the peninsula, a pice of secrets and refuge, a dscription not belied by its igh, narrow roads winding through the pines, ilexes and chestnut trees of the Appenines and the narrow, cloe-hugging streets of its hillowns.

Te claim that "Umbria is the and of saints," is undeniable some zealot has recorded races and relics of some 20,00 of them. But saints are nothigh on my visiting list: the gruesome relics with which Italy is scattered, housed in some of her finest builings, always underline for me the dark and grisly sid of the Middle Ages whih as a happy tourist I prefer to forget. One quick always glance at the skuff or anta Caterina in Siena and the sketchiest appraisal of the skeleton of San Lorenzo in Perugia has always been more than enough for me. A cellarful of nuns' bones in Ischia can still evoke vampire claws along my spine, although it is 20 years since I saw them. So I tend to shun saints whose habit of leaving bits of themselves distributed all over the place I find peculiarly abhorrent.

However with Dr Agozzino (Perugias director of tourism) as my mentor Umbrian saints were unshunnable. Not that Dr Agozzino is even an Umbrian. He is a Sicilian from Agrigento, where all the best places of worship are ancient Greek and pagan.

But to Dr Agozzino, Umbrian saints were not merely a sacred duty but a matter for deep touristic enthusiasm. His scenario incorporated the lives of several of the better known saints, a wolf-hunt in the Appenines, cheese-rolling, theatrical performances in Perugia's highly decorative piazzas, a truffle dig and a bit of costumed *arquebuserie* thrown in for good measure.

Because of my general attitude to saints, I expected to be rather cool about Assisi. I felt I knew just what to expect. Lots of black-robed tearful widows and mammas from the south emoting loudly under Gothic arches and medieval frescoes, an atmosphere dense with devotion and incense and tawdry with religious souvenirs. Although, inevitably, there are souvenirs, the exploitation is light-handed and unpushy. About the atmosphere I was totally wrong.

As you approach it, the town is striking, terraced on the green slopes of Monte Subasio, the great arcaded walls of the monastery below the double basilica rising fortress-like against the mountain, all built in the native pink-tinged white stone, giving the town a curious luminous quality as if lit by some inner radiance. Assisi has a habit of serenity which timelessly resists cynicism and it is quite the most jolly Holy town I have ever visited.

The Giotto and Cimabue frescoes in the two levels of the Basilica have faded with time, but the powerful construction of Cimabue's "Crucifixion" is still mightily impressive and the mastery of the design for the Franciscan Stories in the Upper Church is pure Giotto. But perhaps, even among all the glitter of the Simone Martinis and the Lorenzettis, it is the Cimabue St Francis, standing humbly and very humanly by the side of the more ornate and formal group of the Virgin and Child with attendant angels that lingers longest in the mind and touches the heart most nearly.

South-west across the plain lies Orvieto, a close-knit town towering on its tufa rock above the road to Rome. It bears the most famous wine name in Italy after Chianti but it has more than bottled splendour to recommend it. The cathedral has the most magnificent facade in all Italy, a shimmer of pale stone, red, blue and gold mosaic and superb carvings in marble and bronze. Inside, set against the striped travertine and basalt pillars are some striking, little-known treasures - the moving "Pieta" of the 16th-century Ippolito Scalza, natural and passionate and tragic rather than mystic and grandiose and the 14th-century serene and loving Madonna and Child by Nino Pisano. Orvieto is a visual treasure house.

Umbria has a wealth of dramatic hill towns - Orvieto, Perugia and Assisi are among the largest and best-known — but there are dozens of villages of unique charm and enchantment such as Trevi, Spello, Todi and Norcia, each with its own character and history.

One of the best ways of getting to Umbria by air is to use an Alitalia Fly-Drive scheme via Fiumicino airport in Rome. A car is almost essential if you want to explore this fascinating, too little known region but there are rail services to the principal towns and local buses to almost everywhere.

BRIEFCASE

BY AIR British Airways Apex return to Pisa until March 31, £128. From April 1, £136. Two weeks advance booking, minimum stay one Saturday night, maximum three months. Apex return to Rome from £131 (£139 after April 1) same conditions apply.

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WEEK-END ARTS

Pick of next week's television and radio

Monday

Roll Over Beethoven (ITV, 8.0). A culture shock here. Nigel Planer—the whingeing hippy, Neil, from The Young Ones—turns up in this new sitcom as a refugee from a heavy metal band getting it together in the country with the local music teacher (Liza Goddard), *his faithful roadie* and the Van Gogh he won playing darts with Stevie Wonder. "Those days of wanton, mindless excess are over," he says. Pity, we could have done with a bit more of that.

Dadarama (C4, 12.5 and nightly until Saturday). At last television has its equivalent of the Tate's pile of bricks. David Cunningham, erstwhile Flying Lizard and leading light of the "all sound of music" avant-garde, breaks new ground as the Money of the murky pond. In each of these 10-minute video pieces, he focuses on the changing moods of a small stretch of water, all to a background of electronic plinkety-plonk. Recommended for insomaniacs and those who found the old BBC intermissions too action-packed.

Tuesday

Whistle Test (BBC2, 7.0). How's this for hype: "The Roaring Boys will be making their live television debut — to coincide with the release of their first single. Paid one of the biggest advances in recording history for a new group . . ." They'd better be good, that's all. Also appearing are the Ramones, Madonna and Bryan Adams. Bizarre, by the way, that this rock programme for adults is now scheduled earlier than the kids' Top Of The Pops.

Wednesday

Diverse Reports (C4, 8.30). Mrs Victoria Gillick, star of the High Court and Steve Bell's cartoon strip, debates her attitudes to sex and contraception with a group of teenagers.

Visions (C4, 9.0). The Monthly cinema magazine ushers in a series of Hungarian films by interviewing some of the country's leading directors and returning with them to the scenes of their "non-fiction features." Hungary may have no political prisoners and no food queues, but the film-makers still find plenty to criticise. Very verite, very depressing.

Thursday

. . . And Pigs Might Fly (C4, 5.0). The find of the week — delightfully humorous Welsh language film about an 11-year-old boy who persuades himself and everyone else in his desolate village that two holiday-making Japanese, like moonmen in their *plastic macs*, are reconnoitring for a factory. Reminiscent of Bill Forsyth without the whimsy.

Ours To Keep *(BBC 1, 7.50).* New series about the humbler side of our architectural heritage turns out to be more interesting than it sounds. When Rita Webber decides she must sell up her 17th century Devon farm ("the classiest *long house on* the moor"), the local historic buildings adviser tries, in effect, to put a preservation *order on her* as well as the building. Plenty of rich prospective buyers look over the property, but he doesn't trust them: "You simply cannot insert a swimming pool and a jacuzzi at the shippon end of a long house without destroying it."

A Murder Is Announced (BBC 1, 9.25 and Friday 9.25). Everybody enjoys a good murder in Agatha Christie novels and this more than any is like a game of murder in the dark

Friday

The Miners' Strike (ITV, 8.0 and 10.30). Allegedly risking a loss of up to £1 million in advertising revenue, ITV have bravely scheduled this 2½-hour documentary blockbuster made up of three programmes. Jonathan Dimbleby talks to strikers and working miners and assesses the state of the industry; Brian Walden presents a report on the effect of the strike on the country

Helen Oldfield

Radio

Today: Curates And Conquests (Radio 3, 8.40 pm). Joanna Cullen Brown's mid-concert compilation of readings about the problems of the clergy in love is produced by James Runcie, who may have some special insights into the topic.

Tomorrow: The Duck Shoot (Radio 3, 7.45 pm). Peter Tegel's translation of the *19th century* Russian playwright Alexander Vampilov's play about another shooting party and the people who take part in it.

A Voice Crying in the Wilderness (Radio 4, 7.50 pm). Mgr Bruce Kent talks about the Prophet Micah in the first of this six-part Lent series.

Monday: The Wordsmiths of Gorsemere: An Everyday Story of Towering Genius (Radio 4, 12.27 pm). A literary spoof soap opera about the Wordsworths and Coleridge sounds daunting; but this one stars some of the best comedy acting talent including Denise Coffey, Miriam Margolyes, Geoffrey Whitehead and Simon Callow.

Tuesday: The Great Feast (Radio 4, 3 pm). Play about a murder mystery at election time set in present-day India, with the ubiquitous Zia Mohyeddin as the Inspector.

Wednesday: Sir Thomas More (Radio 3, 7 pm). Repeat of the production of this supposedly Shakespearian play, with Ian McKellen.

Thursday: Ardnamurchan (Radio 4, 3.10 pm). A lament for the furthest west outpost of the British mainland, written and narrated by Alasdair Maclean.

Val Arnold-Forster

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Mick Jagger: time for a change

Robin Denselow talks to Mick Jagger, going solo

Lone Stone

IT'S late afternoon in Paris, and *La Coupole*, the large and celebrated brasserie in Montparnasse, is almost deserted except for a few old ladies taking tea. The students who sit around the bar doing their homework have yet to arrive for the evening, but there's one long-haired figure sitting in a corner. He hasn't been awake, for long, and he wants breakfast. An egg is not possible, he's told, so he settles for an omelette, and, as an after-thought, a *half-bottle of* Bordeaux. "Well, we are in France," says Mick Jagger.

After all these years, it's strangely reassuring to find that Rolling Stones still live the way they are supposed to. The band are back in Paris to record their fifth album, and, as usual, they've been in the studio all night, from two until ten in the morning. Jagger has got up early because, quite apart from the Stones, he's now also got a solo career of his own to look after.

The single Just Another Night is already easing slowly up the best sellers, and it will be followed in a fortnight by a rather better album, She's The Boss. The recordings are, it seems, *partly an exercise in working* with different people, and partly an amusement

"I thought I'd better have a break, or I'd go mad doing the same thing," he said. "If it had been boring, or nothing was happening I'd have knocked it on the head, but I quite like the results, though I'm sure I could do better."

The fact that he's gone solo for the first time (apart from a one-off like Memo From Turner) was, he claimed, no big deal. "The rest of the band had done lots of things on their own, and I was the sort of figure-head who hadn't done anything. The others could go out and play jazz on a Saturday night, without people saying 'is the band breaking up?' It's a *much* bigger number for me, in the public mind, and a lot of people don't want to see you do *something* else."

The Stones have been influenced by black music, from blues to funk, for over two decades so it's not surprising he has used two producers from the black New York dance and rap scene, Nile Rodgers and Bill Laswell, or that he's producing "dance mixes" of several songs, much favoured by *American* black radio stations.

Even so, he doesn't see the album "crossing over" into the black *American market* more than Stones albums do. Instead, he said, it would be regarded, in that "absurb" music-business jargon word, as "multi-format." After all, there's a series of chugging funk and rock dance songs, a slow and pretty ballad, Hard Woman (on which Townshend plays acoustic guitar), and a witty and wailing study of role reversals, She's The Boss, in which Jagger finds himself seduced, and complains "the *party's over.*"

It's a light and witty album, compared to the last Stones offering, Undercover, with its title song and accompanying, much banned, video dealing with violence in Central America. Instead, *Jagger has stepped into his* public persona of the wry and witty playboy with exotic tastes. "I think," he said, "that the underlying, more or less sub-conscious feeling was that this was going to be about personal relationships more, was going to be kind of humorous, take the piss a little bit, and not be too dark and heavy."

The ban on the Undercover video had, he agreed, badly damaged that record's sales. And though he said it "wouldn't stop him doing that sort of song," he'd now obviously be wary of making a video that wouldn't be shown, and he's sensitive to the fact that the Americans are "morals-conscious, and the more popular you get the more worried they are about that."

He couldn't imagine the Americans liking the Reagan impersonation in Frankie Goes To Hollywood's Two Tribes video ("not that I think it's very clever"), and he went on to admit that since Undercover he'd questioned whether pop was the right medium for political comment. "I don't think it is. Sometimes I've really got my doubts, though videos can illustrate the point. What band has put politics across well?"

On his solo album, he's moved well away from that, though he admitted that one song, Running Out Of Luck "could have been a lot more apocalyptic, but I left it vague because it was starting to sound corny." He had "done that and got it out of my system. It's all right if you've got a particular bee in your bonnet about something, but if there'd been a whole album of it, you'd be saying 'very interesting, Mick, but what about the boy-girl stuff?'"

He has concentrated on songs about personal relationships, because "stories on that level are good, they work with people. Peoples' lives revolve around personal relationships. If you're watching television, you're supposed to empathise with those characters on a personal level. And I've tried to write it so you can imagine what's going on, rather than the imagery being vague."

Even so, he claimed there was social comment on the album "like She's The Boss is a comment on a relationship — a society relationship." But that, surely, was very tongue-in-cheek? "Yeah."

Equally light and tongue-in-cheek is the elaborate video project that goes with the album. Instead of filming separate videos to go with different songs, Jagger has added in a story-line to create what he calls a "new medium," a *video mini-musical.*

Filmed in 35mm in Brazil, and directed by Julien Temple, who was responsible for the violent Undercover video and the best-selling Video Re-wind collection of *Stones* archive material, She's The Boss steers well away from politics, but should be controversial enough to keep Jagger in the headlines.

He plays a pop singer ("obviously not me—or maybe I was like that *once*") who is pampered and permanently drunk, and whose ego is gradually stripped down throughout a series of adventures that involve him mistakenly picking up a transvestite, or being sent to a forced labour camp in the jungle "with women who use him, sexually"!

With the four-week shoot on the video finished, and the album about to be released, Jagger is back with the Stones. They'll be recording in Paris until the album is finished, with a delay next month for Keith Richard to become a father, and next September they set out on a (*so far unannounced*) American tour. As for live solo shows, Jagger won't do them even if his solo work outsells the Stones. "It would be fun, but I've too much to do".

TELEVISION
Nancy Banks-Smith

Just Another Day

YES, yes, but who is this woman who wears her *hat* indoors all the time? Does she wear it in the bath? Surely not in the shower?

The Woman in the Hat cropped up in Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children where the reception *committee were waiting for* Princess Michael of Kent to open the Blue Peter Renal Care Unit. They were discussing *somewhat nervously* whether the princess would be wearing a hat.

The chairwoman said with *some hauteur that she* wouldn't wear a hat because she was at home though, she added thoughtfully, she knew someone who wore her hat indoors always. At which point Princess Michael, not to mention Biddy Baxter, the grey eminence of Blue Peter, arrived and further speculation stopped.

My guess is that it was Lady Sybil Grant who, according to James Lees-Milne, wore an orange bonnet draped with an orange scarf *over orange* hair and lived — where else? — in an orangery. Though, of course, looking round at Great Ormond Street all the nurses were wearing hats. And oddish ones too, like frilled pimples.

This was the first programme in a new series of Just Another Day (BBC 2) which is very good at smelling *out the jam inside the* most prosaic looking doughnut. Poking around in neglected corners, they come *across the most improbable* people. Who could forget the traffic warden shyly confiding that wardens wear *pop-off ties so, when they are* seized by the throat, they don't, well, pop off? The head porter at Great Ormond *Street Hospital was one of* this unhappy breed.

He wore the misanthropic expression of a man whose job it is to tell other people they can't park here. "It's very lonely," he said. "You got no friends. Nobody likes *you. One chap was going to* knock my head off my shoulders." His head was curly. He shook it despondently.

A coven of old ladies were packing bandages. "Who else would employ old girls of 76?" A mother had spent *six months in the hospital* with her sick daughter, "home is another world" and, in the basement, the *boilerman was grumbling* like an appendix. "You get fed up chucking rubbish on 'ere all day." I don't suppose anyone had ever asked him before if he enjoyed doing that.

Hamlet without the prince *suggests one of those good* trouperish occasions when, the star being unavoidably absent, the gallant little band went ahead regardless. Like Madame Zelfredo, the snake charmer, who when her snake died did her act without it, you can admire their spirit without necessarily thinking it was a good idea in the first place. Unlike Melvyn Bragg's Laurence Olivier: A Life, which had the prince himself sparkling away centre stage in a panama hat, Olivier (BBC 1) is just a collection of actors saying nice things about him as if they suspected he might be behind the arras listening.

It was, inevitably, the attendant lords who caught the eye like Ralph Richardson, so full of life he can't be dead, vibrating about Olivier's Hotspur. "The *romance* (bang) and the glory (bang) and the fire (bang) of it."

The only hint of mischief came from *Oliver* himself who, in a clip of film, referred to Adolphe Menjou "or Ay-dolphe as he was called." Olivier was always rotten about poor old Adolphe as poor old Adolphe's wife, Joan Fontaine, has testified, though of course not here.

Olivier who like Wogan is divided into three parts ended with film of Olivier as Henry V. At which point I discovered I had been holding my breath for several minutes. I was pretty miffed about it, I can tell you. A person could die that way.

COVENTRY
Paul Allen

The Hunchback Of Notre Dame

TEN regional theatres at a rough count are currently producing shows that began life not as plays but as novels. The attraction is obvious: a fresh adaptation earns a theatre Brownie points for a "world premiere" while it can sell its audience a familiar title. But it does not produce the large scale new plays theatre needs to stay alive.

Rob Bettinson's adaptation and direction of The Hunchback Of Notre Dame at the Belgrade goes for the full spectacular impact of a great *romantic novel*, and at getting on for four hours' length he seems to have put everything essential in. A powerful *narrative is given teeming* life by a cast swollen to 25 (not counting a goat) by judicious and energetic use of *members of the* Belgrade Youth Theatre.

As they tumbled down the stone steps of a 15th-century cathedral or swarm up the wooden scaffolding there is never that embarrassing shortage of bodies that usually results in the modern theatre when a story calls for unlimited soldiers, beggars, monks or citizenry.

It is always an impressive edifice, but only intermittently a moving one. We have to be reminded of the *need to suspend disbelief* every time a torturer's whip falls to crack or a scene is allegedly set high in Quasimodo's *bell tower but is* actually in the same place as a street scene.

More importantly, in the repetitive longer speeches Victor Hugo's high romantic rhetoric is difficult for actors to play (and for others to play off) in a production that may avoid ranting but never quite finds a confident balance between colloquial and poetic speech.

The piece is at its strongest when most still, predictably *perhaps as the sensitivity* under Colum's Convey's hideous make up as Quasimodo slowly dawns on. Marina Sirtis as a rather dim Esmeralda, less predictably as David Gant's priest wrestles with the awful realisation that *in his life at least* lust has conquered spirituality.

MANCHESTER
Robin Thornber

Deadlines

KEVIN kills himself at the age of 18, leaving a note saying, "What future is there now there's no work?" His sister tells a reporter from Radio Sheffield that he had been refused a job at the local colliery, the only employer in the village. "That's what this strike is about, isn't it?" she says. "Jobs for the kids."

Stephen Wakelam's new play, Deadlines, is set in the Yorkshire coalfield and the party conferences last autumn. It follows the development of the story as the ambitious local-radio reporter sells it to Newsnight, where she hopes to get a job. The coroner strengthens it by blaming the recession; the colliery manager debunks it as a prank that went wrong "turning the hooligan into a *hero.*"

It is a careful analysis of how the crusading craft of journalism becomes a shabby trade, turning other people's crises into a commodity. The context bristles with complex contradictions: what could be more absurd than the champagne presentation of Maudie's million by a socialist publishing magnate in Blackpool, or more pathetic than the society scandalmonger contributing to his union chapel's donation to the miners' cause?

Closely drawn from life the script authentically evokes both the world of the media whirl and the still simmering despair of ordinary people. It dramatically demonstrates the gulf between the reality of most people's experience and the way it is travestied by the press and politicians who are supposed to represent them.

When he is offered five minutes' air time Kevin's brother-in-law, homeless because of a bail condition banning him from the house of a working miner, knows it would be futile: the gap is too wide.

Given the way that the script was developed, with *the Joint Stock Company* collectively researching and workshopping the material, the way it was performed seemed astonishingly unsympathetic. On the first night at the Sheffield Crucible Studio, most of the company did not seem to understand the words they were speaking or have any feeling for the characters.

There were plausible exceptions — Ralph Brown as the brother-in-law, Jim, and Paul Mooney as the William Hickey character suggested how it might be. But as well as making it clearer who is who and when and where we are as the action jumps from the Brighton bombing to a fire at the colliery, the director, Simon Curtis, is going to have to toughen the whole thing up.

Hugh Canning on ho
East Germany is mar
ing Handel's birthd
with opera from Lei

Halle of fame

THE extraordinary co
cidence of the births of H
del and Bach within we
of each other in Halle a
Eisenach has given spec
meaning to European mu
Year for the German Dem
cratic Republic. As in Ba
den, February is Hand
month here and almost ev
major opera house has a H
Handel opera productio
Giustino at the Komis
Oper in a fantastical stag
by Harry Kupfer, Alcina
ducted by the Dresden-bo
tenor Peter Schreier at t
beautiful German Sta
Opera Unter den Linde
and Almira, written in Ha
burg to a hybrid Germa
Italian text, which opens
the Leipzig Opera tonig
the composer's 300
birthday.

In Halle Handel's oper
have been staple fare sin
the late Fifties. For th
special year some dist
guished British visitors a
invited to the feast. His
lights include a rare ta
tonight of period authentici
from the Monteverdi cho
under John Eliot Gardiner
a performance of Israel
Egypt to be repeated tom
row at Schinkel's new
reopened Schauspielhau
where Freitschütz was p
miered, and now the ca
tal's leading concert hall.

Hotfoot from Berli
Opera North do Tamberlai
in a radical revision
Phillip Prowse's co-productio
with Welsh National Oper
At the Komische Oper, t
company received a rapt
ous welcome for the leadi
singers though not for t
staging. One local comme
tator referred to the "e
hausting length" of the ev
ning.

The original opening t
lean of destruction, strobe
falling masonry, has n
been scrapped. But the S
Marco horses still domina
proudly the fractured ru
of a baroque city—a pera
tently resonant image wh
outlines the social and ps
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director's view of Tambu
laine's conflict with the
feated Ottoman emp
Bajazet.

It may be that thi
lost on a Berlin audience
familiar with the Eng
text and the extremely c
voluted progress of the p
At the Komische Oper, as
all theatres in the GDR,
eragoers have become ac
matised to Felsenstein's c
ception of realistisch
Musiktheater.

Handel wrote opera se
and if Prowe's Tamberla
is not music-theatre, it
very serious opera. Wh
the production attitudinis
with its extravagantly gart
antagonists, its obsequiou
superior lackeys, it follo
Handel's drama. Prowse d
not cut the middle and
capo sections of arias—
standard resort of GDR
rectors—but maintains t
integrity of the gra
tripartite musical gestu
and the opera's consistent
sombre tone. Tragedy han
in the air throughout.

The director is now serv
by immensely powerful in
viduals in the leading role
Opera North has experienc
women in the two castra
parts, as Handel would ha
done in the absence of c
trati. Felicity Palmer's Ta
burlaine and Sally Burgess
Andronicus, originally
starring role, offer aptly co
trasting timbres.

Infusing her recitativ
with overbearing disdain a
using the coloratura to su
gest alarming neuro-eroc
tendencies, Palmer, in
perbly incisive vocal com
tion, held the audience spe
bound. Burgess conveyed t
languid ardour of the plai
lover in plushy mezzo
cents and a rare expressi
warmth while Kiddw
Harrhy found her most li
pid voice for Asteria's ma
lovelorn *laments.*

Wendy Verco's forcef
Irene and Peter Savag
reduced to a few lines
Leone but perhaps the lin
pin of Prowse's producti
style, complete this outstan
ing ensemble under Cli
Timms's affectionate,
scarcely authentic directio

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RICHARDSON : on the set of The Underworld — picture by Martin Argles (left) ; and as Ruth Ellis in Dance With A Stranger

The blonde caught up in a danse macabre



MY first view of Miranda Richardson as she hobbled into view across a windy expanse of London's dockland was of a small, hunched figure, of indeterminate sex, bringing up the rear of a band of the ugliest, most-misshapen semi-humans it has ever been my misfortune to clamp eyes on. Some had their foreheads where their cheeks should be. Others were covered in green slime.

They were all working on a film with the catchy title of The Underworld. Since everyone on the set was sworn to secrecy I have no inkling of the plot but as far as I could make out it involves a pack of mutants terrorising the Underground, with Miranda Richardson at their helm. Watching them all line up for their actor's lunch was truly bizarre, and I admit I had another slice of garlic bread, just in case.

Having seen her playing Ruth Ellis in Dance With A Stranger, her first film, I am certain that Miranda Richardson is going to be a major star, one of the great English Actresses. You know the kind I mean, the Benches, the Jacksons, the Smiths. Put them in a Hollywood film and they still come up smelling of greasepaint and the Old Vic.

Trying to conduct an interview with an actress of such conspicuous talent, when half of her face seems to belong to a hairless bulldog, is no easy matter. Everytime Miranda Richardson laughed, which was often, despite the gravity of our discussion, she revealed a neck that appeared to have been transplanted from a turkey. How it wobbled and pulsed with merriment!

Dance With A Stranger feels like one of those claustrophobic social tragedies in which the British film industry specialised over two decades ago, all set in dingy council flats lit by a single bar of the electric fire, and usually starring Rita Tushingham.

Ruth Elis as I'm sure we all know by now was the last woman to be hanged in Britain, convicted of shooting her treacherous lover. David Blakely, in the summer of 1955. "If she'd been anywhere else in the world she'd have got off with it on parole, as a crime of passion. But as far as this country was concerned there is no passion." Miranda Richardson switches from her Ruth Ellis voice to an imitation of the judge at the Old Bailey: "Passion doesn't exist."

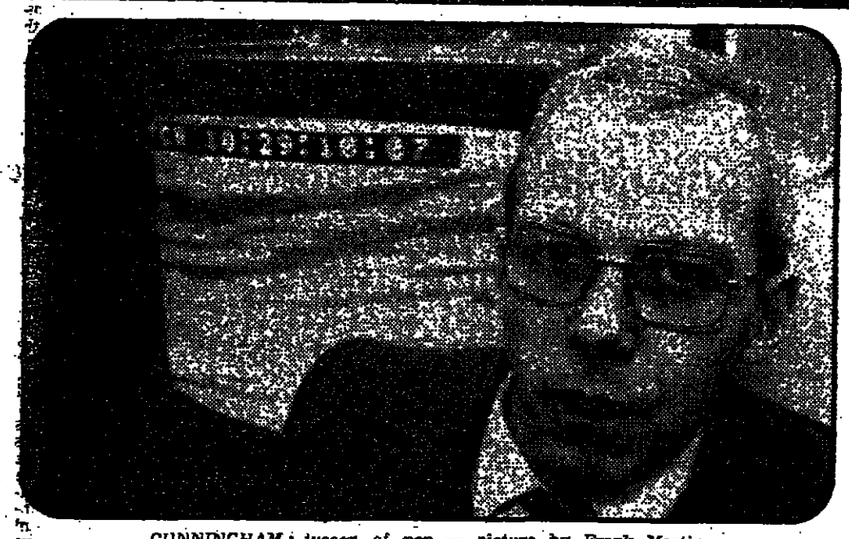
Miranda Richardson spent the first few years of her career as a typical young hopeful, criss-crossing Britain, from Derby to Bristol, from Brenda in an Ayckbourne comedy ("she had an enormous inner life"), to Anne in Arthur Miller's All My Sons. However much energy she puts into the retelling of her story so far it still sounds like a slog. But it has put fetching wrinkles on her face and given her a set of eyes that give nothing away, and seem to stare at you from somewhere deep within. It is this unfathomable look, I am sure, which persuaded the makers of Dance With A Stranger to cast her as Ruth Ellis.

Before the screen test she was asked to watch a documentary of the case which included a tape-recording of Ellis's real voice. "She'd been taping herself on her new present. Little snippets. But everything came back to Blakely. David this. David that. She was completely obsessed. She was also drunk. So I thought, well, have a bash.

"It was her voice really. It sounded so peculiar coming from her. It's really an overdone BBC." Rather like a sinister version of Dora Bryan, I thought, but a voice which, with its social aspirations, its gauche grammatical mistakes, tells a sad story of its own.

As far as physical resemblances go there wasn't much. Ruth seemed to look different in every picture. "She would have liked to look like you," someone told Miranda during the filming. "I must have had very contained energy or something. That's all I can deduce. Because she's a very wound-up person all the time. But it only reveals itself when she's dancing. Or when she's in bed with someone."

One of the more disturbing aspects of the filming was the reaction of the great British public on location. They kept licking their lips and asking "When d'she get 'ung then. When d'she get 'ung." Ruth Ellis's crime was to be a peroxide blonde who liked dancing and having fun when the rest of them were rebuilding Britain. To most people who knew her she was a nice girl. When she gave Blakely money from the till at the club where she worked, the customers used to pass around the hat and make up the difference.



CUNNINGHAM : tycoon of pop — picture by Frank Martin

Rippling waters run deep

HERE is a quiz question. Which pop record that got to number four in the hit parade in 1979 cost only 60 pence to make? The answer, perversely enough is Money, by the Flying Lizards. The 60 pence went on a return tube fare across London for David Cunningham as he set off to record a piano part with a friend. The rest was done in his own home-made studio on a tape he, er, acquired for nothing.

David Cunningham is a softly spoken Irishman who looks as if he has chosen the wrong profession. He has short, greying hair and executive glasses, and he wears clothes of quite outstanding ordinariness. I could imagine him working in a newsagent's in Carlisle. But instead this self-made tycoon of pop has been handed one of television's prime sites — the closedown spot on Channel 4.

From February 26, "as opposed to that awful woman talking about religion," late night viewers will be able to watch water, lots of it, green water, yellow water, rippling water, still water, water with buses reflected in it, sparkling water, enough water to drive the Ancient Mariner to drink.

The films were made at Clapham Pond and the Thames at Isleworth. David Cunningham's proud boast is that "they probably required the least editing of anything that's ever been on television." To the untutored eye they appear to have required no editing at all. Having chosen its preferred patch of water the camera is content to keep staring at it for the next ten or fifteen minutes without moving, while David Cunningham's gentle electronic music plays a game of hide and seek with the images. I found it curiously seductive.

"The thing was," he explains, "to find something that moves very slowly as a direct reaction to the speed of television. Television shows so much of The World About Us, that kind of thing, yet it never looks at it this way. There's always some kind of focus on some activity. Whether it's some little bug in the corner scratching or whatever." In this case I can guarantee anxious viewers that there is absolutely no activity whatsoever.

"The word I use is succulent," continues Cunningham when I ask him to describe his work. "They have a succulent quality. They tend to have a flavour. And they hint at a memory of something." As he's explaining all this I pay him the ultimate compliment and start to nod off. The tape-recorder keeps running.

"If you've been through higher education you develop this capacity for falling asleep in lectures and darkened rooms. Most of the people I know who've been through higher education develop this capacity for just falling asleep in public places . . . " I awake with a jolt. Water is still lapping on the TV screen. David Cunningham is still talking. And I badly need to go to the toilet.

BIRTHDAYS

TODAY: Walter Allen, author, literary critic, 74; the Duke of Beaufort, co-owner, Marlborough Fine Art, 57; Shakira Caine, model, 38; Trevor Cherry, footballer, 37; Lord Ezra, former chairman, NCB, 66; Pete Fonda, actor, 46; Leslie Halliwell, cinema encyclopaedist, 56; Kathleen Harrison, actress, 87; Bernard Kay, actor, 47.

TOMORROW: Cricketers: Brian Close, 54, John Lever, 36, and Derek Randall, 34; Dr Lionel Dakers, director, Royal School of Church Music, 61; Jess Conrad, entertainer, 50; Paul Jones, singer, actor, 43; Richard Shuttleworth, painter, 63; Pat Kirkwood, musical theatre actress, 64.

MONDAY: Actors: Diane Baker, 47; Bernard Bresslaw, 51, and Tom Courtenay, 48; John Arlott, author, journalist, broadcaster, 71; Elkie Brooks, rock, blues singer, 40; Anthony Burgess, novelist, critic, composer, 68.

TUESDAY: Lord Bridge of Harwich, law lord, chairman, Security Commission, 68; Peter Carter-Ruck, libel solicitor, 71; Sir Donald Finnemore, judge, 57; Jackie Gleeson, comedian, 77; Sir James Goldsmith, financier, publisher, 52; Betty Hutton, actress, 64; Gerald Priestland, author, broadcaster, 58; singers: Johnny Cash, 53; Fats Domino, 57; and Sandie Shaw, 38.

WEDNESDAY: Actresses: Joan Bennett, 75, Elizabeth Taylor, 53, and Joanne Woodward, 55; Paddy Ashdown, Liberal/Alliance MP, 44; Viscount Cowdray, head of the family controlling Lazard's, Longman's and the FT, 75; Peter de Vries, novelist, 75; Lawrence Durrell, poet, novelist, 73; Mervyn Jones, author, 63.

THURSDAY: Peter Allis, Ryder Cup golfer turned commentator, 54; Alfred Burke, actor, 67; Sir William Coldstream, painter, 77; Barry Fantoni, novelist, cartoonist, jazz musician, broadcaster, 45.

FRIDAY: Harry Belafonte, singer, 58; David Broome, Olympic show jumper, 45; Douglas Bunn, chairman, All England Jumping Course, Hickstead, 57; Roger Daltry, actor, lead singer with the disbanded Who, 40; Andrew Faulds, MP, actor, 62.

SCAMMELL : demythologising Solzhenitsyn

Mission of the man from the Gulag



ALEXANDER Solzhenitsyn, self-styled "sword in the Hand of the Highest" and recent scourge of the Kremlin leadership, keeps to his compound in Vermont, surrounded by a high fence and with a television monitor at the electronically controlled gate. Visitors are strictly not welcome; it's as near, perhaps, as he can get to a Gulag in the "free" world.

Michael Scammell, who has just written a biography of the man, lives in the chocolate-box Home Counties, commuting to a pocket-sized office he borrows in Covent Garden. In contrast to his subject, Scammell is open and easily accessible.

It is a biography, all 1,031 pages of it, with the subject's back turned. Intellectually, Scammell has lived with the man for two decades or more, translating his important works for an English audience, agreeing to publish the once headline-making Letter To Soviet Leaders, being mauled by the inquisitive KGB after he tried to approach Sholzhenitsyn in Moscow.

In fact, he has only been allowed into the presence twice — once in Switzerland and once in Vermont. Scammell doubts very much whether he has read the biography. But he remains deeply impressed by Solzhenitsyn's iron self-confidence, as he calls it, and his burning sense of mission.

"Psychologically," says Scammell, searching carefully for words, "I feel a great affinity for the freedom-fighter, the lone man. He is also a big literary figure who has suffered from insufficient literary criticism. He was primus inter pares among the dissidents. We have allowed ideological enchantment to get in the way of assessing him properly."

Scammell insists that he did not set out to de-bunk Solzhenitsyn, but thinks he may have "de-mythologised" him. The book is undoubtedly a good read. Solzhenitsyn's life has been amazingly rich in texture. A zeal for God displacing a zeal for Communism; the Gulag displacing the officers' mess; Vermont displacing the Gulag; one wife displacing another; an outsize life displacing near-death from cancer.

But there is also, and always, the irascible prickliness. In the index to Scammell's book we see "Solzhenitsyn — brutality ignored by" (four mentions); "Solzhenitsyn — cold weather preferred by" (four mentions); "Solzhenitsyn — gift-giving disliked by" (three mentions), and so on. The house in Vermont is apparently sumptuously appointed, but "the sword in the Hand of the Almighty" prefers to exercise himself in a draughty summer-house without curtains, with bare tiles, and a chipped enamel basin to wash in.

Scammell says he was "utterly, utterly depressed" when he finished the book. It has, he thinks, done nothing for his future in this country, where Russianists are thin on the ground and not at all officially encouraged. He just might settle in the US.

Rise of superson

POOR Jasper Conran. I wonder how many journalists have arrived at his front door with their poison pens hidden from his security cameras, keen to accuse him of a crime he couldn't help committing, the crime of having *that* man for a father and *that* wamon for a mother.

I admit, I'm as guilty as the rest. What I hadn't expected was to be met by a small and rather forlorn figure, with large sad eyes, sitting behind a desk several sizes too large for him, in a gleaming white building which he appears to be having some difficulty in filling with clothes.

Jasper Conran has the air about him of someone who got smacked around a lot at school by the other boys. He was sent away to boarding school at the age of seven and to New York at 15. At 17 he decided he wanted to be a fashion designer and bought himself a sewing machine. At 18 he set up his own company. Now, seven years later, Jasper Conran clothes can be bought in Japan, Australia, America Hong Kong, The Seychelles and even I regret to say, South Africa.

"They are expensive. I think working women buy my clothes. That's who they're made for." Working women like your mother? "If you call my mother a typical working woman, yes." The fact is that Jasper Conran is doing very nicely thank you which is why some people are rather bitchy about him. On the phone he sounds like the kind of clothes designer you find in Tony Curtis films, shrilly camp, with a voice that keeps pausing in mid sentence to deliver an oooh or an aaah. In the flesh his campness blends in gently with his boyish enthusiasm and soon becomes unnoticeable. Only his vanity persists. This boy's efforts to present his best side to the camera would shame Mae West.

Otherwise he impressed me as someone who has his feet glued firmly to the ground — almost too firmly. To my untrained eye his autumn collection seems spectacularly unspectacular for a 25-year-old, classic skirts and cashmere coats of the kind that aunties wear to registry office weddings. Everything looks vaguely familiar. Jasper explains that it's all in the cut. But clearly choosing not to be outrageous has helped to get him into the shops quickly.

While many inhabitants of his notoriously cut-throat world are more than ready to be nasty about him behind his back he refuses to be bitchy in return, which strikes me as rather noble of him. "I've seen a lot of designers come and a lot of designers go. My ambition is to stay," is all the son of Superwoman will say, getting all tough with me.



CONRAN : ambition to stay — picture by E. Hamilton-West



COOKE : wild about the West

Myths go West

THEY appear to breed a new kind of hero in America today, tall, thin men, tough but sensitive, men who spent the sixties and seventies searching for themselves on the edges of the hippy trail but who only found the answer in the eighties. The best known example is Sam Shepard whose transformation from hobo-playwright to Hollywood's favourite everything, actor, writer, lover and Mr Cool, has been achieved with astounding swiftness. I predict a similar success for John Byrne Cooke.

Having graduated from Harvard with a degree in the literature of the romance languages he promptly joined a bluegrass group as a guitarist. Next, he became a rock 'n' roll road manager, first with Big Brother and the Holding Company and then with Janis Joplin, a close friend until her death. After that came seven years trying to break into Hollywood as a script-writer. And now here he is in Britain, the proud author of 686 pages of Wild West adventure with a difference, called The Snowblind Moon.

The difference is that it doesn't read like a classic Wild West adventure at all, but more like an American War And Peace, with a touch of Harold Robbins thrown in. The Indians in this book wear squeaking moccasins and are no better at keeping their relationships together than the rest of us.

The Snowblind Moon attempts to deal with the reality of the West rather than the mythology. In the 40s and 50s, as Cooke explains, the Indians were clearly the baddies and we all cheered when the cavalry appeared on the horizon. In the 60s and 70s it was the Indians who got the cheers in films like Soldier Blue and Little Big Horn. The truth was much more complex.

There is an important item of biographical information about John Byrne Cooke that I have omitted to mention. He is the son of Alistair Cooke to whom he dedicates his first novel with thanks for instilling in him a love of history. I dare say there are countless listeners to Letter From America who would like to do the same.

Ten years of background reading and research went into The Snowblind Moon. It seems that the men who opened up the West, mountain men, generals, cooks, trail-drivers, were all keen writers, who left behind t mountain of literature. "They were the harbingers of Northern European empire-building and they wrote about it at length." It's obviously catching.

People is written by Waldemar Januszczak

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

1960

FEBRUARY 24: The East German authorities have ordered a legal inquiry into the activities of Dr Otto Dibelius, the Evangelical Bishop of Berlin and Branderburg.

The ostensible reason for this is the bishop's publication of his view that, as a Christian, the citizen owed no direct allegiance to an authoritarian regime. . . .

The real East German motive is to prevent Dr Dibelius from visiting East Berlin ever again, just as he has been prevented from visiting the remainder of Eastern Germany and has thus been cut off from the greater part of his diocese and his flock. . . .

Discord of this kind is certain to be exploited by Eastern Germany, whose ultimate purpose has never been disguised—the division of the East from the West German Evangelicals, and the creation of a controlled East German Evangelical "State Church."

FEBRUARY 25: Mr Gaitskell had a brief but dramatic glimpse yesterday of the dissension and personal animosity which will almost certainly break out among some members of his National Executive Committee when it discusses next month the party's attitude to nationalisation. . . . Mr Gaitskell will have strong, and probably decisive, support from most of the trade unions for his proposal that the controversial Clause 4 of the party's constitution should be amended.

As it is, his chief opponents on this issue—Mr Anthony Greenwood and Mr Harold Wilson.—have lost the preliminary skirmish. Their joint attempt to have discussion on the clause postponed until Mr Bevan has recovered from his illness was rejected at yesterday's meeting.

FEBRUARY 26: Richard Clements, the new editor of Tribune, is wearing Michael Foot's old mantle with a flourish. In the edition of his paper to be published tomorrow he as good as says that Labour's defeat in October can be blamed on Mr Gaitskell—"the last three elections were fought and lost on the policies which Mr Gaitskell thoroughly approved." . . .

It maintains that since his Blackpool speech Mr Gaitskell has made "mistake after mistake" about the constitution. "He said then that the whole of Clause 4 was written 40 years ago. He was wrong. The words 'distribution and exchange' were added in 1929. He also omitted to quote . . . the last sentence of the clause—'and the best obtainable system of popular administration and control of each industry'—which gives the lie to his statement that Clause 4 excludes any forms of public ownership other than nationalisation."

FEBRUARY 27: The engagement of Princess Margaret was announced in the Court Circular last night. . . . The engagement was certainly the best-kept secret in royal circles for many years. It was not unknown that Mr Armstrong-Jones was a friend of the Princess.

He has for some time been in the amorphous part of society often called the "Margaret set"—a serious misnomer since there are so many different sets of people with whom the Princess moves around. He first came into contact with the Royal Family when he was a photographer for a society magazine and took a successful series of photographs of the Queen and her family.

His friendship with the Princess has been conducted and grown unobtrusively and discreetly. It made no difference to his own way of life which is the casual, informal routine of modern young people with enough money to please themselves but without the rigid formality of what is known as "society."

Mr Armstrong-Jones is more often to be seen in Chelsea or Soho than in Mayfair. He patronises small, not necessarily smart, restaurants and dresses casually—tending towards suede jackets and narrow trousers, rather than the uniform dark suit and bowler hat which many other of the Princess's escorts have worn. . . .

Princess Margaret told only very few of her friends about the engagement in the last few days. It is obvious that she was happy to let them know. Those who really understand her ways and motives are not surprised that she should choose a commoner (albeit an Old Etonian) for her husband. The royal houses of Europe have produced no princes of the sort that would appeal to her.

The dollar : what goes up can also tumble

Mrs Thatcher's triumphal visit to the United States was given short shrift by the financial markets yesterday as sterling plunged another 0.6 cents to a record low of $1.0765. If the Prime Minister thought she would be able to persuade the President to do something about the strength of the dollar — like intervening more powerfully on the foreign exchange markets — she was bitterly disappointed. It leaves her scope for budget tax cuts even more limited. Far from trying to talk the dollar down the President seemed keen to keep it up. What was wrong, he argued, was not the strength of the dollar, but the weakness of other economies.

This appeared to be confirmed by revised figures for annual growth in the fourth quarter of last year (4.9 per cent instead of 3.9 per cent). And all this in the week when Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board (who has more power than anyone else in the world to influence interest rates) hinted that he might raise interest rates further despite the continuing strength of the dollar. These were the signals that commercial buyers and speculators were delighted to hear — the US currency was likely to go on up and the Government would not do anything about it.

The US administration cannot get away with both threatening to impose a 20 per cent across the board import surcharge to protect its industries from becoming uncompetitive while at the same time sweet talking the dollar upwards thereby making industry even more uncompetitive.

President Reagan warns against the danger of rekindling inflation (through higher import prices) if the dollar were to fall too sharply. But by encouraging a rise he is merely raising the height of the cliff from which the dollar will eventually fall. If the US *wants to have any chance of a "soft landing" for* the dollar (a prospect which gets more remote as it scales dizzy new heights) then the administration must do three things.

First it must stop talking up the currency. Second it must at least try to implement the system agreed at the Williamsburg summit two years ago under which the major economies intervene simultaneously in the $200 billion a day foreign exchange markets to ward off the speculators. Third, and most important, it takes realistic steps to reduce the US $200 billion plus Federal deficit-preferably as part of an international move in which European countries pursuing excessively tight regimes indulge in a bit of fiscal relaxation.

The most obvious moves would be to cut back defence spending (which has risen over 40 per cent in real terms in three years) and to reform the tax system in which practically everything that moves is *tax deductible. It is this which has turned the US into* a low saving country which has to attract a disproportionate amount of the savings of the rest of the world to fund its deficit.

On defence suffice to say that the US Congressional Budget Office pointed out this week that if defence spending were merely allowed to rise in line with inflation over the next five years it would improve the cumulative budget deficit by US $345 billion in the four years to 1990. If growth were merely limited to 3 per cent the savings would be US *$182 billion over the same period. If President Reagan* is right that high defence spending has brought the Russians back to Geneva then realistic offers of cuts could inject the right note of realism. The chain effect on the economies of the rest of the world would be entirely welcome.

The bitter road from Sidon

Daily attacks on Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, followed by heavy reprisals against Shi'ite villages, are making the end of Israel's occupation as *ugly as anything that has happened since it began.* Israel is not due to complete its withdrawal until the late summer. The date is arbitrary. No agreement could be reached with the Lebanese because Syria would not permit it, however much it might have been in Lebanon's own interests. The three stages of withdrawal then decided upon unilaterally have been timed to ensure that at the end the client Christian force known as the South Lebanon Army can cope with the multitudinous guerrilla forces and finally take up the position it occupied north of the border before the Israeli invasion of 1982.

The locality has, however, been transformed since 1982. In place of the heavily armed but unwelcome Palestinians whom the invasion scattered to other parts of the Middle East Israel is now up against the indigenous Shi'ite Muslims. It hoped to come to terms with them, retaining the goodwill which was evident when its troops first arrived. In the event the antagonism has grown to a degree which makes impossible a withdrawal which is both slow and peaceful. The choice can therefore be presented as between making the retreat into a bitter rearguard action, with pointless casualties on both sides, and getting out completely as soon as possible. It can also be presented another way : between a future security based on the South Lebanon Army which may well prove illusory, and a future security which, in line with Israel's general method of making decisions on the hoof, is taken care of if and when the time comes. Since there is no part of the globe where events are less responsive to detailed forward planning than Lebanon, support in Israel for the second course grows by the day. The biggest - circulation newspaper and supporter of the Likud, Yedioth Aharonoth, demanded a total withdrawal immediately although, as a Defence Ministry official remarked, it would at one time not have demurred at the invasion of Turkey.

This is a desperately miserable situation for those who have to live with it, the Lebanese and the Israelis, and is emphatically not one which should lend itself to faraway noises of disapprobation. It is easy to specify what the policy of the State Department, the Foreign Office, and the European Community should be : viz, that the killing should stop. A lot of help that is ! Of course it is utterly fascinating to follow the twists and turns of Levantine politics as President Assad shrewdly calculates and King Hussein shrewdly bides his time. But there are people there, Israelis and Arabs, who want to get on with the real stuff of life. If outsiders have a contribution to make it is in helping all the people of the area to remember their common humanity. That will not happen until the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians receives more active encouragement. King Hussein and Mr Yasser Arafat have announced another agreement but are hesitant to say what it is. The rumour is that it goes a long way towards accepting the Reagan Plan and leaves the status of Jerusalem till later. With such a manifesto in the open, and with pressure on Israel to reverse its previous rejection of the Reagan Plan, the way would be open for negotiations more serious than any that have yet taken place. Israel cannot concentrate its mind on that problem—rather it cannot be required to do so, possibly against its will—until it is out of Lebanon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How TV gets its pit dispute news 'out of synch'

Sir, — Alan Protheroe and Alastair Hetherington (Letters, February 13 and 19) defend the BBC's coverage erage of May 15 and 17 *offering a general list of the* issues covered. However, it is in the specific style of coverage that much of the misreporting occurs.

If they re-examine the coverage of the May 15 and 17 they will see why these news practices are being so closely questioned by both academics and the NUM. The May 15 case illustrates an intervention by the chief constable of Nottingham on behalf of working miners. The BBC took sound only from his press conference and made up its own visuals by captioning him against *the violent arrest of a picket.*

It then used a compilation of violent scenes, shot on different days, in different locations and with different soundtracks. This included a shot of working miners walking through a "wall of abuse," apparently from unseen pickets shouting "Scab ! Scab ! Scab ! ".

It might be argued that this alone was suspect, be*cause the use of library film* was unacknowledged and there was no "balancing" compilation to illustrate the NUM's accusation of police *violence against miners.*

Unfortunately the *malpractices did not stop* there. On May 17 a further compilation was shown, in part using the same unacknowledged library footage. The chant of "Scab" was reused, though it no longer fitted the "lip-synch" of the pickets. And the working miners of two days before were also seen again, this time peacefully going with only the sound of a *passing bus to disturb them.*

As people — policemen, pickets, and working miners — get hurt on picket lines, anything which inflames passions needs to be rigorously questioned. Could Mr Protheroe therefore tell us which was the true *soundtrack for these compila*tions, and what instructions he gives to film and video tape editors as to the use of library footage, compilations, and "non-synch" sound-effects in news reporting? — Yours faithfully,

(Dr) Eric Northey.
Manchester Polytechnic School of Film and Television.

Sir, — Will Alastair Hetherington (Letters, February 19) please note that Greg Philo was not criticising ITN for "highlighting the cost of the coal dispute." He was criticising its inference that these costs were *the miners' fault.* — Yours sincerely,

Sandra Maddrell.
130 Church Road,
Bolton, Lancashire.

Sir, — Indeed we live in stirring times. A court declares that Parliament rather than the government of the day represents the British state, and the assistant director-general of the BBC replies to criticism of news bias (Letters, February 13): a priviledge surprisingly extended to my complaint of February 8, but one denied to the 74 MPs, 23 trade union general secretaries, and 14 professors who wrote to the BBC in April 1981 complaining about news coverage of the Labour movement.

In response to Mr Protheroe's claim that the *BBC has reported the coal* dispute "in a fair and objective manner," I wish to point out that :

My concern has always been with news, not current affairs. The reason is that the main source of news for 60 per cent of adults is television news, and that's where bias counts.

It is not much of a reply for Alan Protheroe to point out that many aspects of the dispute have been covered on Newsnight. This programme is more impartial in its coverage ; I have cited its wording to show up bias in the BBC news (Letters, April 10, 1984).

And it is no reply at *all to* say miners' allegations of police atrocities were reported by the BBC in Tak*ing Liberties on* November 8, 1984, because this was an Open Space programme originating with Sheffield Women's Policewatch and not the BBC.

My question is : why has so little of this material appeared on the news at 6 pm and 9 pm ?

My complaint was not that BBC news omits all reference to the cost of the dispute, the innovation of a national police force, miners' support groups, etc. Rather, this sprinkling has been added to provide a flavour of impartiality, while the main focus of reporting has been elsewhere, particularly on "picket-line violence". There is a balance, but it is *a weighted balance.*

This is apparent in phrasing. Consistently BBC news has referred to "uneconomic" pits, not pits "said *to be uneconomic ; to "new* faces" (who wouldn't like one of those ?) rather than "strike-breakers"; to "the miners' strike" (blame where blame is due ?) rather than to "the coal dispute."

In a letter of August 31, 1984, I drew attention to this last wording, but the BBC continues to use it, even when it risks the absurdity of speaking of "the two sides in the miners' strike".

How would you defend these three phrases as impartial, Mr Protheroe ?

It may take thought to come up with impartial phrasing, but in fact the *BBC has the means to do it* quickly and easily because, unlike ITN, it has a secret committee for controlling the news : the DNCA committee.

How would you defend your committee, Mr Protheroe, when it doesn't even impose neutral *phrasing ?*

The assistant director-general says the BBC has reported fairly and objectively. Yet as far as one can find out — *it's not a topic* on which the BBC publishes a fact sheet — the corporation's hierarchy is in effect appointed by the Government (Letters, February 25, 1984).

With this structure, how can the BBC and BBC news really be independent of the Government ?

Antony Easthope.
27 Victoria Avenue,
Didsbury, Manchester.

Sir,—In his letter (February 1) defending BBC TV's reporting of the miners' strike, Alan Protheroe cites the Open Space programme, Taking Liberties, as part of his evidence of the corporation's supposedly unbiased coverage.

He does not point out that as the BBC's only community access programme, Open Space is editorially *separate* from both news and documentaries, and is compiled by outside groups.

Taking Liberties was highly controversial inside the BBC and we in Sheffield Policewatch, the group which *sponsored* the programme in November, are certain that neither it, nor anything like it, would ever have been made or shown under the BBC's editorial banner. We were angered that Policewatch was deliberately excluded from the (lame) discussion which followed the broadcast, and from one of the Newsnight programmes, also cited in the assistant director-general's letter.

In our view, based on 10 months' systematic monitoring, the BBC's coverage of events on picket lines is almost as worrying as the policing we have witnessed.—

Patricia Stubbs.
41 Chelsea Road.
Sheffield.

The fat file on CND leaders that Cecil Parkinson almost let out of his bag

Sir,—You published on February 21 an anonymous *letter from* someone who works in the House of Commons, revealing that millions of people, many of them Catholics, have written to their MPs in support of a recent bill.

I can confirm from personal experience that this is absolutely true: indeed, large numbers of Protestants and people with no recent record of church attendance did the same. What is more—and here your correspondent underestimates the persistence of these people—some of them were the same people who earlier wrote to *their MPs about Ethiopia.*

There are, however, a number of simple steps which your correspondent could support in order to deal with this problem. Any MP found reading a constituents' letter could have his voting rights withdrawn. Any *voter who attempts to com*municate with an MP could be disenfranchised.

If this proves difficult to enforce, a simple and radical way of freeing MPs from their influences would be to have no elections at all. This would avoid the political difficulty of selective bans on groups such as the Catholic Church, the General Synod of the Church of England or CND, all of which are riddled with people seeking to influence things. Such bans would attract ferocious but predictable opposition from Liberals and liberal fellow-travellers in the other parties.

Alan Beith, MP.
(L, Berwick upon-Tweed),
House of Commons.



Sir, — I was dismayed to read the letter on Enoch Powell's Bill for the Protection of Unborn Children from someone who claimed to work at the House of Commons, but did not have *sufficient courage to sign the* letter. It called for religious tolerance, yet was profoundly anti-Catholic in its language and sentiment.

I too work at the House of Commons. My boss and I never receive phone calls from Life or Spuc. We received considerably more letters on Ethiopia than on Warnock or the Powell Bill.

To accuse the pro-life lobby of using Militant-type tactics to pursue its ends is grotesque in the extreme. Those of differing or no religious beliefs are also free to *lobby MPs. The fact that* they do not should not be held against those whose lobbying is effective.

The writer seems paranoid about Catholic influence in this country. I would point out that Enoch Powell and two of the MPs who spoke in support of his bill, the Rev. Ian Paisley and the Rev. Martin Smyth, are not noted for their fondness of the Catholic Church. — Yours faithfully,

Karen Pritchard.
21 Rusholme Road,
London SW15.

Miscellany at large

Sir, — How on earth do they do it ? First we had the Californian codger tickling the tummies of our parliamentary sheep and fleecing their brains with fatuous platitudes. Now we've had *the return match : Tina her*self chopping up truth on Capitol Hill and chucking it in raw hunks of codswallop to a purring audience of congressional fat cats.

Is it really politeness, or do the elected guardians of our liberties succumb completely to the gross flattery and self-congratulation offered them on these occasions ? Either way, there's surely been nothing to match their foolish servility since Rosencrantz and Guildenstern expired. — Yours sincerely,

John Backwell.
Formby, Liverpool.

Sir, — Having read the parliamentary sketch in Tuesday's Financial Times ("Davies breaches the iron lady's armour") I turned to that paper the next day, expecting to find an irate letter from David Maclean, MP (cf., Letters, February 21). I discover, however, that only Guardian reports attract the ire of that gentleman. I wonder why ? — Yours,

Thad Green.
Hayling Island, Hants.

Sir, — As the NUT representative in a South London comprehensive school where union members include the head teacher, deputy head teacher, senior teacher, heads of English, maths, and humanity *faculties, may I sug*gest that your definition of the NUT as speaking for "the poor bloody infantry" (Leader, February 20), is a little less than accurate. — C. H. Batteson.
Tumbridge Wells, Kent.

Sir, — It seems that the time has come for me to abandon my campaign against "split infinitives." Since that interesting exchange of letters on this subject in your columns some weeks ago, I seem to have been bombarded with split infinitives by the BBC, ITV, *and everybody else.*

When I turned on my TV the other day — a programme called Arena, I think — and heard the au*thor of the runner-up for the* Guardian's Book of the Year telling me "to topographically reconstruct" something, the camel's back was broken, and I have downed tools. But I will still wince whenever I hear a split infinitive, and I won't buy the book.

(Lord) Winstanley,
House of Lords.

Making a clean sweep of the parliamentary lobbies

Sir,—The news that MI5 has been spying on CND reminds me of a conversa*tion I had with the then* chairman of the Conservative Party, Cecil Parkinson, in December 1982.

Mr Parkinson had just appeared on the BBC-TV programme Saturday Briefing in which I was one of two journalists invited to put questions to him. During the programme he made several sweeping statements about the political affiliations of leading members of CND which *I challenged him to* substantiate.

Afterwards, in the hospitality room, he went to his briefcase and produced a thick briefing document apparently produced by the Ministry of Defence which gave details of alleged Com*munists and Trotskyists on* the general council of CND and in Youth CND.

When I asked Mr Parkinson if I could have a copy of the document, he at first said he did not see any reason why I shouldn't. He was, however, immediately interrupted by an aide who said that the document was confidential. Subsequently, I rang Mr Parkinson's office to see if I could obtain a copy of the *document, but was told* I could not.

This conversation took place at BBC Television Centre on December 18, 1982. I made a note of it immediately on my return home because it seemed to show that the intelligence services were *supplying Conservative politi*cians with the fruits of their spying activities.

Chris Mullin.
London SW9.

Sir, — I really must thank Alan Rusbridger (Diary, February 21). After our tele*phone* conversation on Wednesday about the problems I have been having with my mail, would you believe it, the very next day it all arrived promptly and nobody had tampered with it.

The telephone is obviously rather more difficult. I'm most intrigued because sometimes when I pick it up before I have dialled, I can hear a bell ringing out somewhere, but in groups of *three rings, not two. Then it* was rather strange about the Woolfs because only Graham Smith and I knew he was *going to do his book at that* time.

But still, it's all just a coincidence. As your columnist says, the Hilda Murrell story *is full of them.*

Judith Cook.
Newlyn, Penzance.

Tuned out

Sir, — In no way did Sutton Borough Council condone the illegality of the pirate Radio Jackie (Letters, February 15). What the council did do was to support an application for an experimental *licence for community radio* of the type Radio Jackie was providing. This in no way was meant to be taken as tacit approval of any form of illegality.

I hope this clarifies the current situation, and that no further false statements concerning the Council that I represent will be published

(Cllr Dr) D. J. H. Trafford.
(Leader) Sutton Borough Council.

New plank for radio pirates

Sir,—Roger Allen's claim (Letters, February 15) that Radio Jackie has "all the answers" to community radio is silly. All Radio *Jackie proved was that* people who want to listen to Radio 2 will just as happily listen to an ersatz local version.

As Australia's 50-odd non-profit community stations have shown, "third force" radio can do far more than *ape existing services.* By providing a platform for local groups and individuals, they greatly extend the range of opinion and variety of cultural programming available. They give disadvantaged groups a voice, cover local events and issues and, above all, are owned by and are accountable to, the local community. They are also a lot of fun.

Roger Allen's prescription is that alternative radio should transfer broadcasting *power from big-money inter*ests to small-money interests—a remedy that would guarantee more of the same, with the odd plug for a jumble sale.

The opportunity we now have to develop a real community-based sector in British radio is much too valuable to be left in the hands of the pirates like Jackie. For once, Britain could step off its broadcasting pedestal and learn from the experience of other countries.—Yours sincerely,

Bevan Jones.
80 Garrick Close,
London W 5.

Exile's end

Sir,—Your report (February 13) on the *Umaru Dikko* kidnapping refers to the part played by the Israelis in his abduction. You do not, however, point out that the last Nigerian government, headed by President Shagari, was vociferous in its condemnation of Israel as a force for destabilisation in the Middle East and, as such, a government that should not be given any opportunity to re-establish itself on the African continent.

When the December 1983 coup came, the Israelis must have decided to ingratiate themselves with the Federal Military Government, headed by General Buhari and offered their services to bring back Umaru Dikko.

I am sure all the fair-minded people who watched the interview carried out with Mr Dikko by the BBC would agree that he stated his will*ingness to face trial in any* country where he could be assured of a fair trial. Like so many other politicians who have fled the country, *he said he was prepared to* return to Nigeria when the 80 million people of that country are given the democratic right to choose their own government and when those who have seized power on the pretext that the economic misfortunes of the country were brought on by a politician, return to their barracks and perform the constitutional duty which armed forces in civilised society provide.

S.T. Fahm.
Movement for Restoration of Democracy in Nigeria,
London SE14.

In the fields of monetarism

Sir, — Victor Keegan's sentiments (Financial Guardian, February 18) about farmers in the context of the miners' strike may go down well with the average "urbanely isolated" Guardian reader, but is entirely typical of the simplistic type of "chalk" and "cheese" contrasting often done these days.

For a start the two industries are vastly different in the way they are constituted and organised — mining a nationalised "high ratio of employees" enterprise based on tight village communities — farming a countryside spread of "agric" businesses of all different sizes and types in the main "family *working" concerns with an* ever declining "employed" labour force. What both do *have in common is the need* for a proper and balanced "social" approach.

This might have gone too far in coal and food in the past, but the opposite so-called "economic" road could destroy entire communities.

Drastically reducing agricultural protection, as Victor *Keegan suggests, would in* no way give the simple responses outlined. The effect would be to centralise the bulk of British food production into the richer, higher producing larger unit areas of Eastern England and Scotland with much of the west of lower potential and largely small family units going into decline and probably complete dereliction. This did start to happen in the early 30s but was corrected by the *war.*

In the prevailing conditions of the world of the late 20th century food import prices would be unlikely to reduce in the simple arithmetical way Victor Keegan says. In *fact it could be* more expensive than he thinks as well as involving valuable foreign exchange with a pound becoming more and more stretched. Also with Third World food shortage, *it is highly arguable* whether it is right and moral to attract food imports from these areas when it should really be consumed at source.

R. A. Weston.
Hereford.

Baton rouge

Sir,—With reference to a photograph caption in your issue of February 9, accord*ing to my Information Dmitri* Shostakovich, the Soviet composer, died in 1975 and at no time defected to the West.

(Mrs) Lilian Carter.
Woodbridge, Suffolk.

A COUNTRY DIARY

MACHYNLLETH: Last century when there was a craze for collecting ferns, people used to flock into Wales in pursuit of specimens. Tourist literature sometimes gave advice about the best fern hunting localities. And among these likely spots were the hills above Barmouth where, the guide books said, you might find a little spleenwort which some collectors called the Barmouth fern. Finding myself in Barmouth one morning I remembered that advice and decided to go and look for this fern though, for all I knew, the Victorians might have cleaned it up long ago. My pocket guide to wild flowers informed me that this fern "has a curious predilectation for old mineshafts" which sounded really adventurous. Off I went to inspect the abandoned mines above the town. But though I searched and searched those mines my efforts were all in vain. It was a shining day, the mountain tops beckoned, I lost all in*terest in botany* and had a very good day walking the hill instead. The setting sun was already in my eyes as I began the long descent from the uplands and it was early dusk when I came down the last steep lane into Barmouth. It was then I no*ticed a bright green fern* in one of the walls. But now I was tired, my brain much slower than my eye, and I walked on 40 yards before I told myself that there had been something different about that little fern. So I turned back and it was well *that I did so because soon* I was able to go on my way rejoicing that despite the Victorian predators the Barmouth fern lives on.

WILLIAM CONDRY

A fine line in Christianity that can charm the classroom

Sir, — Although perhaps not the principal burden of his Face To Faith article (February 18) on religion in *schools, John Pearman has* opportunely drawn our attention to what he calls "the whimsical ineptitude of many Anglican parochial clergy" and suggests that this "has given school religion a bad name."

I suggest further that this *ineptitude, which clearly ex*tends beyond the Church of England, frequently relates not only to the clergy's inability "to cope with the complexities of school, law, administration or philosophy" but also the failure of clerics to communicate effectively *with the children and adoles*cents whom they address on their visits to schools.

This, too, is hardly their fault ; they have often received no relevant training. If their ignorance of how schools operate gives religion a bad name amongst the *adult population, the fre*quent failure of their attempts to interest pupils in the Christian faith gives religion a bad name also in the eyes of the young, which is a far more serious matter.

There are, of course, notable exceptions, local clergy gifted in speaking to schoolchildren on their own wavelength. Another welcome factor, however, not mentioned by John Pearman, is that increasingly other exponents of



Christianity than the clergy are willing to provide that service which the local ministers have signally failed to deliver.

In my own experience as a Christian teacher I have come across, or read of, para-church organisations, such as the Inter-School Christian Fellowship and Youth for Christ, which are prepared to enter schools by invitation to conduct assem*blies and even religious edu*cation lessons. Their representatives, often ex-teachers but still young are usually extremely effective communicators, and hard-pressed RE staff are often very grateful for the service they provide.

If one adopts a Christian *stance, the presence of such* visiting religionists may, of course, be welcomed. Many of them, however, are self-styled evangelists, and their presence raises thorny questions of the thin dividing-line between religious education and what the critics sometimes too readily refer to as indoctrination.

*Nevertheless they are usu*ally given a good hearing by their audiences and the effect of their visits is often long-lasting.

For all the dangers of abuse which, God knows, are inherent in any and every human enterprise, the Church should be extremely grateful for those who can effectively counter the "whimsical ineptitude" of much of our *religious* establishment. — Yours faithfully,

Michael J. Smith,
15 Golden Hind Park,
Southampton.

Sir,—John Pearman's argument for a more pluralist system of religious education to take account of the non-christian religious in our society still leaves out one significant section of the community and one signifi*cant system of belief.*

There are the large and growing number of children who have no religion—at least 10 per cent of the total, as many as Roman Catholics, and more than all the non-Christian religious put together—and the non-reli*gious view of the world*, which is just as valid and should be taken just as seriously as any other.

A genuine education about religion including all "the major belief systems," as argued by John Pearman, should be extended to include those which are not religious. The problem is whether the religious and political establishment is prepared to have real pluralism in education.

Nicolas Walter,
Rationalist Press Association,
London N1.

Term of abuse

Sir, — The Guardian should be aware that "Viets" (as in "Viets poised," front page, February 15) is not an acceptable *term. It continues to be used* as a pejorative statement, analogous to "Japs," "Negroes" or "Pakis," etc.

Dora Nipp.
Toronto, Ontario.

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WEEKEND

SPORT

United in the McGuigan faith

Britain's best boxing prospect for years faces his sternest test tonight. Frank Keating sets the scene

FIRST THINGS first. As the week progressed, so increased the state of small ads in each edition of the Belfast Telegraph. They all amounted to the same thing—and now it is almost hopeless, for tonight's the night.

This is a typical ad from Thursday's desperate dozen: URGENT—Will exchange two reserved stand tickets for England v Northern Ireland soccer for McGuigan ticket anywhere in the Hall. Please phone....

Barry McGuigan, it can safely be said—and without disrespect—has done more to unite all factions in Ulster than an armoured-lorryload of Douglas Hurds. Devoted McGuigan supporters' clubs are as plentiful in the Catholic Falls as they are in Protestant Shankhill. The Rev. Paisley will be rooting tonight for the same fellow as the Cardinal.

Barry is a 23-year-old featherweight prizefighter, born just inside the Republic's border in Co. Monaghan but newly a naturalised Briton. He comes from a fighting family and one used to high drama—his father Pat was third in the Eurovision Song Contest for 1967, for instance.

The son sings different songs. In the past couple of years his electrically-charged, cruel and vicious talent in the boxing ring has been sending current of pride and adrenalin through a majority of fellow-citizens of the hitherto careworn, depressed and beleaguered old cities of siege.

The only place, as you might expect, not officially able to see the fight live is in the Province itself. No matter, at all, and I noticed a man with a ladder surveying the chimney in the good old Esplanade Hotel, Bangor, yesterday. They are putting up an aerial beamed across to pick up Scotland's transmitter. A lot of others will be at it with the antennae all today.

Tonight Eurovision are coming along with the rest of the world. Tonight McGuigan moves into the big league. One can even detect, horrors, a few shimmers of pessimism wafting around the edges of that great wall of confidence and certainty and esteem that has helped carry the young man on its shoulders thus far.

He fights Juan Laporte of Puerto Rico, lately WBA champion of the world, who has never once been knocked off his feet in a career of 29 fights which includes seven championship bouts.

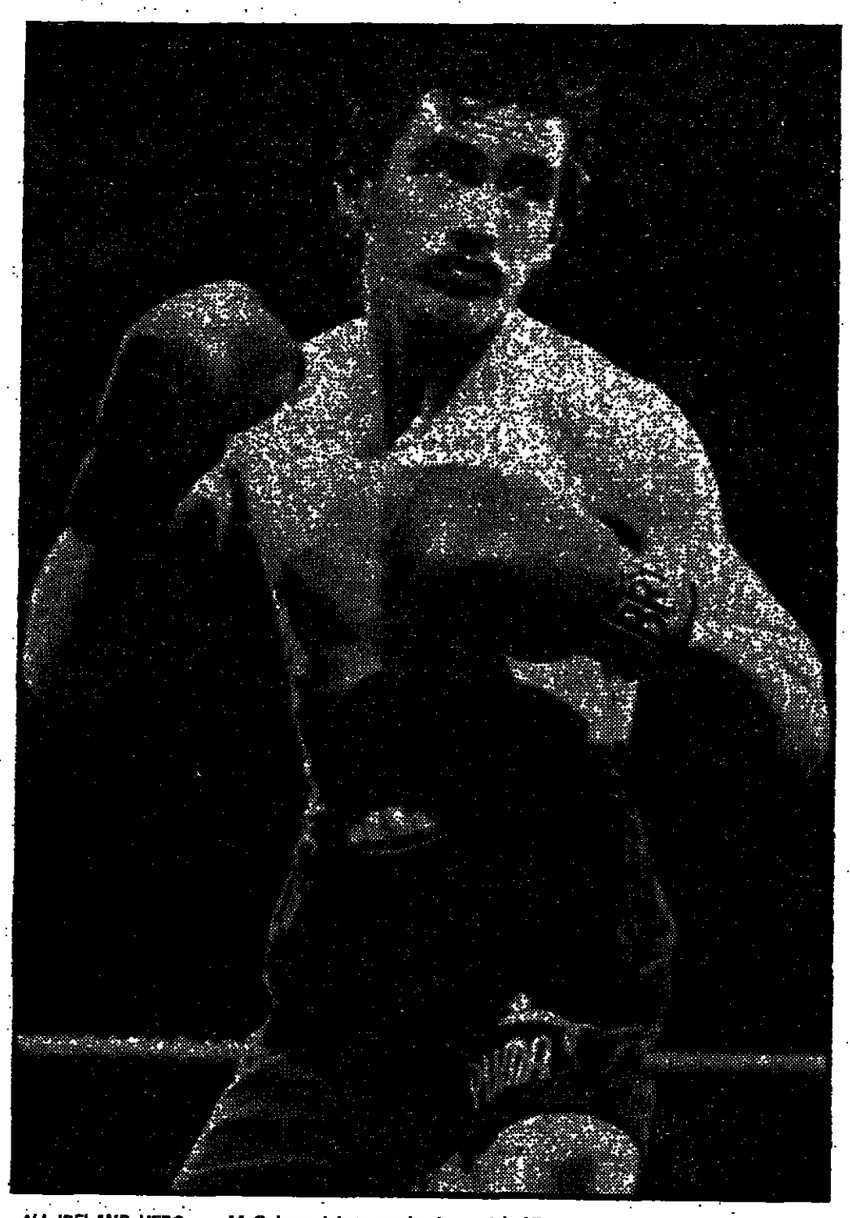
Laporte was beaten a year ago by the Panamanian, Wilfredo Gomez—some say unluckily, some say because he was carefree and undisciplined in his training. Gomez has since lost the title to Azumah Nelson of Ghana. Laporte says with menace that he intends to re-assume his rightful place at the earliest opportunity—and if not, to usurp the WBC spoils held by Eusebio Pedroza, also of Panama.

Either way, McGuigan must be rubbed out first.

We must allow for that almost imperceptible tremor of unease that I guarantee will riddle a few spines tonight, be they shrewd, unbiased, betting professionals or lily-livered fainthearts. For the rest, the vast throng will make up, by all accounts, an occasion of such heaving, partisan intensity as these islands can have witnessed for many a year in the fair name of sporting endeavour. Seven thousand will be allowed in, but it will seem that seven times that number are there. I have never been to the uniquely clamorous cockpit they call the King's Hall. Apparently I will be hanging on to my very senses as well as my hat tonight. Should I live to tell the tale, it will be yours on Monday.

Meanwhile, get out the sandbags, then stay near your TV's volume control button tonight — and first put the cat out if it is of a slightly timorous nature.

We have to take it on trust — or at least I do — that Laporte is a pretty fearsome customer; he has been, they say, extremely well taught; he has puff and a punch that can be concussive. If in his time he has not been a glutton for the gym, as reports make out, he has not been found wanting here. He arrived in Belfast a fortnight ago, shivered at the weather, but then laid out his tool kit and got on with his business. He has been early to bed. All his work has been done in camera — or if you like, without cameras. Rest assured he will be trying tonight.



ALL IRELAND HERO . . . McGuigan tickets are in demand in Ulster

Someone said yesterday that Laporte has arrived with only four weapons — a jab, a left hook, a right hook and an upper-cut. The bloke added that Laporte will not bother much with a jab. So, just three then, I said. The replying grin had an evil twist at the edges: "Why fiddle about with a rapier when you can cut a man in half with a machete?"

He might, I thought, brightening, have been talking about McGuigan. For there is little doubt that the long-armed, beautifully-built boy with a sparkle in his navy blue eyes is the type of professional fighter who comes along but rarely. Certainly in Britain.

To those in the know, the development in leaps and bounds in both McGuigan's technique and in his controlled two-fisted savagery has been remarkable in the last couple of years.

Just two thoughts nag. So wickedly comprehensive have been the Irishman's recent victories that no one has any idea about how his defences might marshall themselves should the battle-hardened Laporte put them under any consistent pressure. And how might McGuigan cope if a cruel fight drags on towards the last bell? It is over three years since he had to fight 10 rounds.

The presence of the American CBS TV's No. 1 crew—they are looking for an incredible worldwide live audience of 30 million—is a further hint that we might have one heck of a fist fight on our hands. The commentators, the legendary Gil Clancey—back in the islands where it all began—and the man himself, Sugar Ray Leonard, would not cross the Hollywood Boulevard, let alone the Atlantic, to watch some of the Puerto Ricans and other Latin American taxi-drivers who have been shipped over as opponents for British boxers occasionally in recent years.

Likewise, it is good to have the delightful knowing, Glinting Little Angelo Dundee also in town. Clancey said in the week: "Boxing on TV in America has found its appeal slumping in recent years because of the domination on fight cards of the Puerto Ricans and Latin Americans. Your little white country boy from Co. Monaghan could change all that."

On the same tack, I remember Angelo's brother, Chris, who promotes fights in Miami saying last year: "Forgetting about television for the moment, the fight game in the US actually started going down when the Army began drafting all the young men. The Army taught them a trade or it paid for education later, and any man with a good trade isn't about to get knocked on his butt to make a dollar. It just opens the door for all these hungry Latins."

There is no way of pretending that McGuigan is short of a crust. On his days off the boy might work at the family grocery store in Clones—but the Alfa Romeo is parked outside.

As Willie Pastrano put it one time: "Boxing got me out of my effing hell-hole, baby. Got me out meeting people. It's been good to me. I was no brain, no effing Einstein. I wanted to play it a little safe, and boxing was about the safest I thought. But if I had a chance to do anything else when I was growing up, God Himself couldn't have dragged me into a fist fight."

McGuigan's hunger is for fame and a championship. Or rather, as he says, "even if I didn't win, I would just like to fight for one."

I wouldn't like to be in Laporte's shoes tonight. On the other hand, I'm none too sure I'd feel all that safe and snug in McGuigan's. Behind those sandbags, the lot of us.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Paul Fitzpatrick on the return of a legend

Leigh go for Murphy's lure

ALMOST THREE years ago at Whitehaven's Recreation Ground, Alex Murphy delivered a half-time rollicking of such passion and vehemence that it has passed into Rugby League folklore.

The objects of his apoplectic invocations were the Leigh players who, in the last game of the season, were in danger of throwing away the League championship against a Whitehaven side that had been bottom of the table all season.

Murphy's words probably carried less poetry than those of Napoleon as he addressed his men before the Battle of the Pyramids — but they had a similar effect. Leigh roused themselves, swept Whitehaven aside, and won their first championship for 76 years.

The current crop of Leigh players know what to expect. There will be no championship for Leigh this season, but relegation unless a calamitious slide is not arrested. And yesterday the club brought back Alex Murphy with the hope that he can still work his miracles. Murphy has been unemployed since last August when he was ousted from Wigan after a personality clash with the vice-chairmaan Maurice Lindsay.

He will now need all his powers of oratory and persuasion for a losing run of nine consecutive games has sucked Leigh into second place from bottom, their travails really gathering intensity last November when in consecutive weeks, they lost their two outstanding play-

Life with Britain's losing Lions, page 17

ers, Des Drummond and John Woods, with serious injuries. It was clear on Thursday that something was brewing at Hilton Park when, to his deep bitterness, Colin Tyrer was sacked.

He had been brought in as assistant to John Woods the club's young player-coach, but had failed to halt the decline. Murphy now returns as manager but will clearly be in full control.

Brian Sharples, Leigh's chairman, expressed the hope that will now be invested in murphy. "Our situation is desperate," he said, "and Alex is the only man who can give us a chance of avoiding relegation. He returns by public demand, although this must be the biggest challenge of his career."

No man in the game arouses greater extremes of passion than Murphy. He is loathed by some, idolised by others. His methods of coaching, in an age gradually moving towards a more cerebral approach, have been questioned. But two things are beyond dispute — that he was one of the greatest players the game has seen and that his record as a coach at Leigh (twice before) Warrington, Salford and Wigan is testimony to his powers of motivation.

Murphy's first task will be to prepare Leigh for their first round Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie at home to Huddersfield tomorrow, and it will be a surprise if he does not start with a victory.

It will be one of the curiosities of this season's Cup campaign — bought about by the cold and frost — that one side today, either Warrington or Wigan, will be through to the quarter-finals while eight other sides are still waiting to complete first round games.

Today's televised match between Warrington and wigan offers exciting possibilities . . . and the chance of a capacity crowd. Wigan have won 11 League matches in succession, only two short of the record, and last Sunday disposed of Batley in impressive style in the first round.

They are even confident enough to enter today's conflict without and established goal-kicker, Colin Whitfield having been dropped. David Stephenson is responsible for the job today, something he has not done since his Rugby Union days. The match is the last one for John Ferguson, the outstanding Aboriginе winger.

Tomorrow's matches should see straightforward victories for Widnes, Hull Kingston Rovers and Castleford. Less predictable are the games at Thrum Hall where Halifax, with home advantage, might just be capable of surprising Hull, and at McLaren Field where Bramley meet Salford.

Search for the bright new wizards of Oz



McDERMOTT : With Lawson a sharp spearhead

Matthew Engel in Melbourne looks at Australia's men most likely to tour England this summer

IT IS SPECULATION season in Australia right now. Among those who still care about cricket rather than just the multi-coloured spectacle, there lurks the thought that sometime, when the World Championship and attendant fuss is over, Australia are going to have to pick a team to go to England and hold on to the Ashes.

The argument takes a slightly different form than it does in England, with the endless letters from Nottinghamshire in support of Randall and from Hampshire — or now Surrey? — for Trevor Jesty. In the magazine Australian Cricket this month Karen Preckford of Ivanhoe, Victoria wrote in favour of the wicketkeeper Wayne Phillips: "With his cheeky grin, fluffy moustache and sexy little bum, Wayne adds life and excitement to an otherwise boring team."

The touring party is probably not going to be picked on the Karen Preckford scale of values, though the way things are going in Australia, I rule out nothing. In any case, I think we can take comfort that whatever deficiencies there may be in the England selection process, the Australian set-up makes theirs infinitely worse.

On January 3, Australia emerged from a run of disasters to record an innings win over West Indies. It was a moment when a team should have gelled to go on and deal with England. But since then the Australian summer has lurched into its endless twilight of what the grand old-timer Bill O'Reilly calls "hit-and-giggle" cricket. Last Sunday, only four of the Sydney heroes were in the team that beat England: Border, Wessels, Lawson and McDermott. The rest have vanished because of injury, loss of form or their supposed unsuitability for the one-day game.

Greg Ritchie, for instance, who replaced Hughes at Sydney, has hardly batted since; Andrew Hilditch, who topped the averages against the West Indies, has just seen his form go. So who gets preference for England, Ritchie or Dean Jones, the man of the one-day moment? The tour is going to be far more concerned with Test matches.

The eventual decision is likely to depend heavily on one man's scale of values. There are only three Australian selectors, two recent Test players, Greg Chappell and Rick McCosker, and an older, less well-known figure, Lawrie Sawle. It is generally believed that Chappell's voice carries most weight.

This has advantages. The English pattern is to make players into selectors only when they have been retired long enough to have lost touch. Chappell was playing only a year ago. But he took into retirement some heavy ideological baggage about which players he did and did not like, and some of the most able leaders left in the Australian game, like David Hookes, the pugnacious if eccentric captain of South Australia, and Dirk Wellham, the New South Wales captain, appear to be out of the reckoning.

Now with Hughes opting out of captaincy, Hogg uncertain of his place and Lawson joining the hooligan tendency, there is neither an alternative to Border as captain within the team nor even a convincing candidate to be vice-captain. The job could end up going to the Afrikaaner Kepler Wessels, who only qualified for Australia two seasons ago.

Chappell and Co's easiest job may well be picking the attack, which will probably consist of the five bowlers who played against England this week — Lawson, McDermott, McCurdy, Alderman and O'Donnell — plus the two spinners who helped avoid the West Indian whitewash, Holland and Bennett.

On Sunday, the Australian attack did not look especially impressive, although the England batsmen did their best to make it seem fearsome. Lawson was concentrating on line and length, and McDermott was not fully fit; in England they should form a much sharper spearhead, supported by Alderman, the English conditions specialist, and O'Donnell, an all-rounder who may have Bothamesque tendencies, something the Australians have long coveted.

The bowler who impressed the England players most was McCurdy, who surprised several of them with his pace and bounce (not least Gatting, whose injured hand is a monument to it) and is said to be capable of bustling away all day if necessary. This could well take him to England in preference to the fading Hogg, the injury-prone Rackemann and dear old Jeff Thomson, who is still chuntering away for Queensland.

There is another young fast bowler, David Gilbert of New South Wales, who is widely regarded as the quickest, day-in, day-out, in the country. But he has already won a scholarship to play for an English county second XI this summer, and is evidently being set up to be the reserve if anyone gets injured. This will probably work against Gilbert's own chances of getting in the 16 and against Hogg, who is more likely to go if the Australians decide they can afford to take a 17th player.

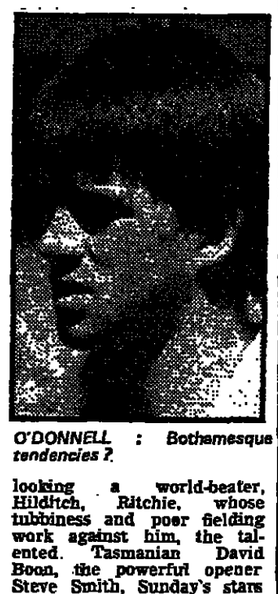
The post-Marsh wicketkeeping situation is not now considered a problem, with Rixon — currently injured — regarded as the No. 1 for Tests and Phillips of the sexy bum as the one-day choice, a capable deputy and, at a pinch, a good enough specialist bat as well.

That still leaves room for seven full-time batsmen. We may assume that Border, Wessels and, if the poor old love does not disintegrate completely, Kim Hughes are certainties. That means the selectors will probably be perming four from Graeme Wood, the old kamikaze kid, who plays with great consistency without ever looking a world-beater, Hilditch, Ritchie, whose tubbiness and poor fielding work against him, the talented Tasmanian David Boon, the powerful opener Steve Smith, Sunday's stars Jones and Kerr, and perhaps, if they want some experience, Graeme Yallop.

I am happy to leave the Australians to sort out the problem, except to say that I think they would be insane not to pick Kerr, who looked a class player in Melbourne, and has proven form on English wickets. He made a stack of runs for Nottinghamshire second XI when he won a scholarship two years ago.

Some Australian commentators are already comparing 1985 to 1972, when a young and mainly unknown team went to England and began to take shape as the Lillee-Chappells-Marsh side that helped transform cricket. But England clung on to the Ashes in 1972 and all the evidence of India suggests that 1985 ought to be England's year.

It seems funny not having Lillee, Chappell and Marsh around to hate, but this brief trip to Australia is whetting one's appetite for the new Australian generation. If the English summer is kinder than the winter, we could be in for a brilliant cricket season.



O'DONNELL : Bothamesque tendencies?



THREE OF A MIND . . . to go to England (from left) Robbie Kerr, touted as the new Greg Chappell, Rod McCurdy, the bowler who has impressed the England players most, and Dean Jones, the man of the one-day moment. Pictures by Adrian Murrell

Midwinter freeze leaves Spurs with home fire

Robert Armstrong on today's full League programme as soccer emerges from the enforced break

FOOTBALL managers are fond of proclaiming that the League Championship is as much a test of strength and stamina as any of the other virtues that make for a successful team. This season the durability of the leading clubs could well be the decisive factor in the race for the title as they attempt to cram a total of 17 fixtures into a period of 11 weeks, weather permitting.

The FA Cup is likely to complicate matters even further with only Tottenham and Arsenal among the top seven in the unwanted position of being able to concentrate solely on the League. But even Spurs, not to mention Manchester United and Liverpool, could find themselves seriously stretched by their involvement in Europe particularly if injuries further deplete a squad already weakened by the loss of Galvin, Ardiles, Allen, and Miller.

Peter Shreeves is bound to be hoping that the midwinter freeze that has shut down White Hart Lane for the best part of two months has now done its worst. When Tottenham have completed their game against West Bromwich Albion at the Hawthorns today, the First Division table will show that 10 of their remaining 16 matches are at home. Traffic congestion in North London could soon be as intense as fixture congestion.

Such a heavy preponderance of home games is bound to enhance Tottenham's challenge as they seek to close a four point gap on the leaders, Everton. Howard Kendall's side are among a clutch of title contenders, including Manchester United, Arsenal, Sheffield Wednesday, and Southampton, who must visit White Hart Lane in the coming weeks. It is surely no exeggeration to say that the cockerel will provide the cockpit of the championship.

Of course, in theory any one of several clubs could still achieve the League and Cup double last accomplished by Arsenal in 1971. While Manchester United or Southampton may well win the Cup, their League form is hardly irresistible partly because United leak too many goals and the Saints score too few. It would not be beyond the powers of Liverpool to mount a typical spring surge, with say 14 or 15 wins from their remaining games, but that is asking a lot even by their standards.

If Spurs defeat West Bromwich and Everton drop points at Leicester — who always pose a volatile threat to leading clubs — the betting odds are certain to swing sharply towards the Londoners. Shreeves restores the Scottish youth international, Ally Dick, for his first senior game of the season in place of Galvin on the left flank. West Bromwich may also give Gary Owen his first full game for a year and bring back Robertson after suspension, following the withdrawal of Statham with a knee injury.

Manchester United have tended to avoid defeat by Arsenal in recent years and there is no compelling reason to suppose that the pattern will be any different at Highbury today. Don Howe has chosen to bring back his two wayward internationals, Woodcock and Nicholas, for this testing occasion while the United manager, Ron Atkinson, seems likely to restore Stapleton to his attack in place of Whiteside who has lost his scoring touch.

Predictably Howe claims that his decision has nothing to do with the fact that both England and Scotland are involved in World Cup qualifying games next Wednesday. However, Woodcock is under no illusion that he is playing for his international place: "It's up to me to prove to both Don Howe and Bobby Robson that I am playing well." Surprisingly Talbot is dropped in favour of Davis in midfield.

Everton would probably look askance at anyone burbling about the romance of the Cup following their abrasive encounter with Telford which left half a dozen players on the treatment table. Sharp misses the game at Leicester with an ankle injury while the centre back, Mountfield, faces a late fitness test on a back injury which could cause him to miss his first game this season. Howard Kendall brings Harper into midfield and moves Steven forward into a striking partnership with Gray.

Kendall will have a first-hand opportunity to assess the talents of another striker, Gary Lineker, who is thought likely to favour the Merseysiders if he decides to leave Filbert Street when his contract expires in the summer. Gordon Milne, who claims he has received no firm offer for Lineker, will select his team from a squad of 13 that includes Mark Bright, a young striker who could eventually replace the England international.

Southampton also include a couple of reserve strikers, Baird and Puckett, in their squad for the game against Nottingham Forest at the City Ground. Baird is expected to replace Jordan, who begins a two game suspension, but Holmes, the club captain, is still out of action with a groin injury. The Saints have taken points from 10 of their 14 away games this season though Brian Clough claimed yesterday that his team's recent games in Iraq would give Forest the edge in match fitness.

Liverpool have an excellent opportunity to improve their League position by beating bottom-placed Stoke at Anfield. However, the champions are likely to be without Hansen who has an injured knee — Molby may be brought into the defence. The Potters will give a late fitness test to Chamberlain who has a groin strain while Hudson begins a two match suspension.

The East Anglian clubs, Ipswich and Norwich, turn their back on the League for a day in an effort to make progress in their much-delayed Milk Cup semi-final. The first leg at Portman Road marks the first occasion on which semi-finalists have played on a Saturday but neither will complain about a delay which has given them time to get key players fit after injury.

Gates returns to the Ipswich attack, having recovered from a gashed calf, while Channon has used a three week break to rest his injured ankle. Both Deehan and D'Avray hope to continue their record of having scored in every round of this season's competition. "Losing does not bear thinking about," said the Norwich striker. "We have been the bridesmaid and not the bride so many times."



SOCCER DIARY

Patrick Barclay

Cheesed off in Parma

WHILE everyone talks about Wilkins, Hateley, and other glamorous foreigners, Italy continues to manufacture the minor melodramas for which its soccer industry has infinite capacity.

Recently a Second Division match at Parma was held up for seven minutes by fog. After the final whistle, with promotion-chasing Bari surprisingly on the wrong end of a 3-0 scoreline, their incensed manager told the referee, Arcangelo Pezzella, that he had failed to allow time for the interruption.

Pezzella was deeply embarrassed when a linesman confirmed the error. He made for the dressing-room to retrieve the players, only to discover that some had already removed their kit and were showering. This, according to an obscure rule, precluded their reappearance on the field. So Pezzella declared the match postponed, giving Bari a second chance.

Then the pasta really hit the fan. It was pointed out that the Bari president's brother was president of the League. Questions were asked in Parliament, where a Fascist MP accused Pezzella of having sabotaged not only the entire Second Division but Italy's beloved football pool, Totocalcio.

When the match was replayed, Parma eased unbearable tension by scoring a late winner. But poor Pezzella, a bank clerk with a degree in political science, remained in disgrace. Fellow referees, believing that he has discredited a noble calling, are expected to strike him off the list. And a new word has crept into the Italian vocabulary: a blunder is now known as a "pezzellata."

DUE TO press-box congestion Ronald Atkin, of the Observer, and Deryk Brown, of the Sunday Times, had to dictate their running reports of York's draw with Liverpool from a telephone kindly installed in the home dugout. Denis Smith and company, much amused, greeted their intermittent appearances with quips like: "Aren't you going to ring the missus, then?" This was a perfect opportunity for Atkin, who is married to the Observer's Julie Welch. "I don't think so," he replied. "She's doing Chelsea-Newcastle this afternoon."

THERE'S always trouble, sportsmen tend to say, when politicians poke their noses into our business. The latest killjoy is Swaziland's Home Affairs Minister, King Mtetwa, who warns his country's champions, Highlanders, to be wary of "sex traps" when they visit Lesotho on African Cup duty.

"A lot of beautiful girls may be made available to you before the game," he says. "Such traps are aimed at destabilising you. You are going to war, and must be on the lookout for all kinds of weapons."

Highlanders are 4-1 up from the first leg, which reminds me of the old joke about why Southampton's players got into trouble in Sweden a few years back; they misunderstood Lawrie McMenemy's instructions, which were to get the second leg over as soon as possible.

BURNLEY'S plight saddens Don Proud, a head teacher from Nelson, who has poured his feelings into 15 stanzas. It's almost a modern history of the club, pride turning sour as he relates:

Up there in the boardroom
They set out on a new track.
They wanted an outsider in
and Miller got the sack.
Then came along a bigger name
With even bigger gob
And gallant Martin Dobson
Soon had lost the captain's job.

Shortly afterwards Dobson became player-manager at Bury, where he was joined by another former Turf Moor favourite, Frank Casper.

Once fans had seen John Connelly
Place the ball on Robson's head.
Now flashy blokes in pale cream macs
Crept round the ground instead.
And Steven's high at Everton
Hamilton at Oxford's top
While Burnley sink down further
As they fight to beat the drop.
If they go down to Fourth,
And they might get there in a hurry,
They'll pass Dobson, Casper, Jakub, James
All going up with Bury.

Charles Burgess

Chelsea in for Johnston

SOCCER

Chelsea, Aston Villa and Queens Park Rangers are the clubs leading the hunt to sign Liverpool's midfield player Craig Johnston, who has been put on the transfer list by the champions' manager Joe Fagan.

Liverpool are likely to accept around £500,000 for the 24-year-old Australian who has become dissatisfied at not being able to hold down a regular first-team place, having made 132 appearances for the club since being bought from Middlesbrough for £650,000 in 1981.

Chelsea tried to sign the talented and pacy player in the summer when Liverpool gave him leave of absence to remain in Australia while his wife gave birth to their daughter—christened Chelsea. The Chelsea chairman Ken Bates travelled Down Under to try to persuade Johnston to leave Merseyside but to no avail at the time.

Aston Villa have already revealed their interest as they attempt to rebuild their European Cup winning team of three years ago while Rangers have made a more private inquiry. One problem for any of the three would be the paying of the considerable salary to which Johnston has become accustomed at Anfield.

Another possibility being debated within Anfield is whether they attempt to use Johnston as bait to attract the striker who will eventually replace Ian Rush, likely to move to Italy after the end of next season. The three strikers in whom they, and many others, are interested are Chris Waddle of Newcastle, Peter Davenport of Nottingham Forest and Gary Lineker of Leicester, all of whom finish their contracts this summer.

Liverpool's problem is that any replacement will have to spend some time in the reserves waiting for Rush to leave. The club are loath to be caught on the hop as they were when Souness, their former captain, moved to Italy last summer with no one ready to ably fill his midfield berth.

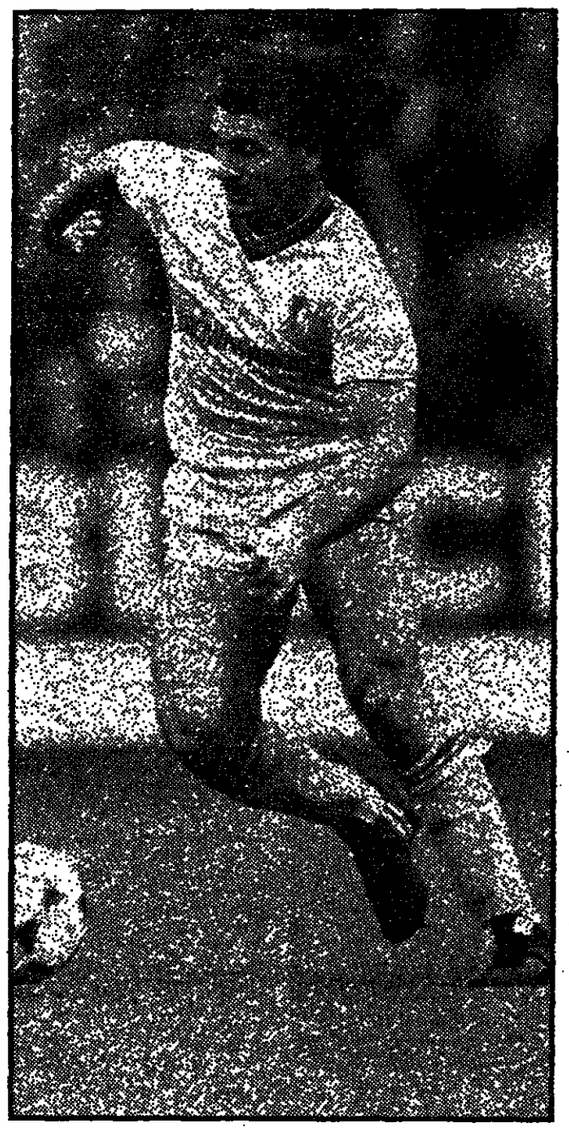
Meanwhile the former Liverpool and Arsenal midfield player, Ray Kennedy, has joined the North-eastern non-League club Ashington. One of the most successful players of the past 15 years left Hartlepool United at the end of last season, where he was player-coach, and took over as manager of a club in Cyprus.

Doncaster Rovers have signed another Scot, the 19-year-old Clyde striker Raymond Deans, for £40,000. Deans, a 6ft. 2in. youth international who is serving a two-match ban, was being watched by several First Division clubs.

Swansea City's new manager John Bond has made his fifth signing for the struggling Third Division club, the 31-year-old midfield player Barry Powell, formerly with Wolves, Coventry and Derby and just released by Burnley.

● Billy Rafferty, one of the game's nomads, could be on the move again. He will sign a short-term contract next week for Bristol Rovers — which would be his ninth club — provided Steve White, also a striker, can agree personal terms to go to Bournemouth in exchange.

● Swindon Town of the Fourth Division could be saved from the threat of bankruptcy by an unnamed international company based in the town. The club have £500,000 debts, which include rent arrears for its council-owned ground.



JOHNSTON : Salary expectations may be problem

UEFA's Berlin wall

ENGLAND'S chances of staging the 1988 European Championships continue to improve as the furore over the decision by UEFA's top choice, West Germany not to include West Berlin as a venue, continues. Yesterday Chancellor Helmut Kohl said that the Federation should reconsider its offer to stage the championships if West Berlin cannot be one of the seven host cities.

Kohl said that the Federation should do everything possible to get West Berlin approved and added: "If this effort does not succeed, and the Federation is forced to exclude Berlin then it would be good for them to consider if the championship is worth this price." England are the reserves.

The Federation originally proposed West Berlin, which is over 100 miles within East Germany, as the venue for the opening game but they only got the UEFA go ahead on condition that they change their minds. The West Germans knew that Soviet bloc opposition to the divided city's inclusion would damage their chances.

The issue has become a big one in West Germany. After a special session of the Bundestag the foreign minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said: "I appeal to the Federation to rectify the damage done to Berlin. In and for Berlin beat the hearts of Germans and soccer friends. The Federation cannot deprive them of this."

A Social Democrat member of parliament's sports committee, Peter Buechner, said: "If the UEFA committee is so influenced by the political orientation of certain of its members that they reject this important move, then the Federation must be prepared to give up the championships."

The head of the federation Hermann Neuberger said yesterday: "We used all thinkable diplomatic means to convince UEFA that at least one game be played in Berlin. But on all important questions UEFA takes great pains to get members to vote unanimously." He said that West German politicians were grabbing at the chance to use the popularity of soccer for election purposes.

West Germany play a World Cup qulaifying game in Portugal tomorrow and, already without Rahn and Meier in midfield, they could play without their captain and centre forward Rummenigge, who has 'flu.

Charles Burgess

Maurice Hamilton

Tyrrell boosted by turbo effect

MOTOR RACING

The Tyrrell team yesterday maintained their reputation for harbouring the best-kept motor racing secrets when they unexpectedly announced a deal with Renault which will give the British team turbo-charged engines this season.

Apart from the recent controversy over Tyrrell's alleged technical infringements last year, the team's fortunes appeared to have reached a new low when it looked as if they would have to rely on the Ford-Cosworth engine for another season. It is certain that Tyrrell's drivers, Stefan Bellof and Britain's Martin Brundle, would not have qualified for any of the grands prix with the non turbo-charged engine.

The agreement with Renault, signed in Paris last Monday, means two most promising young drivers are back in serious contention, and certainly on a par with Lotus and Ligier who also use the French V6 engines.

The design of a new car began last year while Tyrrell continued negotiations with various turbo manufacturers and the final details to suit the Renault engine are now being carried out. Testing will begin at the end of April and, in the meantime, the team will use the 1984 Cosworth cars for the first grand prix in Brazil on April 7.

Tyrrell's legal dispute with FISA took a new turn yesterday when the sport's governing body said they were considering Tyrrell's offer of withdrawing legal proceedings in return for the team's reinstatement in the 1984 championship. The dispute centres on Tyrrell's suspension for alleged contraventions of fuel regulations at last year's Detroit Grand Prix.

Meanwhile, Tyrrell are continuing discussions with potential sponsors, including Systime Computers, the British company which last year lent the team valuable support during a troubled season.

Tyrrell are the last team to switch to turbo-charged-engines, a development sparked off by Renault when they arrived in Formula One in 1977. The final irony is that Ken Tyrrell was the first to be offered the use of Renault engines to power his six-wheel car in 1976. He turned the deal down.

Charles Burgess

Killanin's doubts

SPORTS POLITICS

The Greater London Council yesterday decided in favour of making a bid for the 1992 Olympic Games, even though they are not likely to exist by that time. Meanwhile the former International Olympic Committee president Lord Killanin expressed doubt about a London bid—revealed exclusively in the Guardian this week—being successful.

Lord Killanin, referring to the government's interest in staging the Games, said: "I think that a politically motivated bid, which this appears to be, would remind IOC members of Mrs Thatcher's part in the boycott of the Moscow Games. I believe, too, a London application might not get much support from South American members after the conflict with Argentina."

The Irishman, president during the games in Montreal in 1976 and Moscow four years later, is among those asking questions about who would lead the London bid after the demise of the GLC.

However after yesterday's meeting of the GLC's sports sub-committee a statement said: "The GLC is the only city wide authority in any kind of position to make such a move and be in accordance with the IOC charter."

Dick Palmer, the BOA secretary, said yesterday: "If the National Olympic Committee approves the idea that we host the 1992 Olympic Games, we would of course welcome this decision of the GLC sports sub-committee. Most of the facilities used by the games would be within the GLC area, so the first thing to do would be to consult with the GLC and set up a London Olympics feasibility study."

BADMINTON: England's decision not to award full caps for the first time in 55 years of matches against Scotland came close to rebounding embarrassingly when a select side scraped home by only 4-3 against the Scots at Hinckley, Leicestershire. Chris Dobson and Dipak Tailor had to save a match point at 16-16 in their final game against Alex White and Ian Pringle to ensure victory.

Brian Wilson on today's matches in Scotland

Celtic hopes on the line

The race for the Scottish Premier Division title could be all over bar the shouting today. If Aberdeen can secure the points at Celtic Park they will almost certainly be too far ahead of their only serious challengers.

Celtic came within one point of closing the gap just before the New Year. But a run of postponements and a bad defeat at Dundee two weeks ago have left David Hay's men again well behind.

The Aberdeen manager, Alex Ferguson, pointed out yesterday that a win will leave his side needing an average of just one point per game from their last nine fixtures to be sure of retaining the title. And few would doubt Aberdeen's capacity to do that.

Much more dubious though is Celtic's capacity for consistency. Even a good result today will mean that their form on the run-in would have to reach rather greater heights than have been in evidence throught most of this season.

Celtic had good news yesterday when their winger Davie Provan, who had been sent home with flu symptoms, announced himself fit. In recognition of the importance of today's game Celtic have gone to Seamill in Ayrshire — the training venue they normally use before major cup ties and European games.

For Rangers there is little left to play for after their Scottish Cup exit last week. It will be interesting to note both the size of their travelling support and its attitude towards the manager, Jock Wallace, at Tynecastle Park, where they meet Hearts.

Derek Johnstone, recently signed as a striker from Chelsea, finds himself at centre-half in the Rangers defence, a symptom of how erratic Wallace's team selections have been throughout the season.

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WEEKEND FIXTURES IN DETAIL

MILK CUP
Semi-final, first leg

Ipswich v. Norwich

CANON LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION

Arsenal v. Manchester Utd
Coventry v. Chelsea (11.30 am)
Leicester v. Everton
Liverpool v. Stoke City.
Newcastle v. Luton
Notts Forest v. Southampton
QPR v. Sunderland
WBA v. Tottenham H
West Ham v. Aston Villa

TOMORROW

Sheffield Wed v. Watford

FA TROPHY.—Third Round: Altrincham v. Bishop Auckland; Boston Utd v. Wokingham; Fisher v. Frickley; Harrow v. Enfield; Maidstone v. Bath; Runcorn v. Barnet; Wealdstone v. Welling. Second round replay: Bangor v. Stafford; Matlock v. Bromsgrove.

GOLA LEAGUE.—Dagenham v. Nuneaton; Dartford v. Yeovil; Kidderminster v. Barrow; Gateshead v. Scarborough; Northwich Vic. v. Kettering; Weymouth v. Telford.

SERVOWARM ISTHMIAN LEAGUE. — Bishop's Stortford v. Wycombe W; Epsom v. Bognor; Harlow v. Sutton Utd.; Hitchin v. Leytonstone & Ilford; Slough v. Hendon; Tooting v. Barking; Walthamstow Ave. v. Carshalton; Windsor v. Hayes; Worthing v. Croydon.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE. — Chorley v. Flint; Colne/Boro v. Marine; Hyde v. Goole; Macclesfield v. Oswestry; Southport v. Burton Albion; Witton Alb. v. Workso; Workington v. Grantham.

CENTRAL LEAGUE.—Everton v. Liverpool (2.0). Tomorrow: Notts Co v. Notts Forest.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION. — Luton v. C Palace (2.0); Reading v. Bristol R; Southampton v. Swansea; Tottenham v. Brighton (2.0).

SECOND DIVISION

Blackburn v. Oxford Utd
Cardiff v. Wolverhampton
Fulham v. Carlisle
Grimsby v. Notts County
Leeds v. Charlton
Manchester City v. Brighton
Middlesbrough v. Huddersfield
Portsmouth v. Oldham
Sheffield Utd v. Barnsley
Shrewsbury v. Birmingham

TOMORROW

Crystal Palace v. Wimbledon

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE. — Bangor v. Larne; Carrick v. Ballymena; Cliftonville v. Ards; Coleraine v. Portadown; Distillery v. Linfield; Glenavon v. Crusaders; Glentoran v. Newry.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.—Premier Division: A.P. Leamington v. Chelmsford; Fareham v. Shepshed; Folkestone v. Trowbridge; Gloucester v. Alvechurch; Gravesend v. Crawley; Hastings v. Witney; King's Lynn v. Cheltenham; R.S. Southampton v. Bedworth. Tomorrow: Hastings v. Trowbridge; Willenhall v. King's Lynn. Midland Division: Bridgnorth v. Leicester Utd; Bromsgrove v. Forest Gn; Hednesford v. Redditch; Merthyr v. Dudley; Bloor Go v. Aylesbury; Rushden v. V.S. Rugby; Sutton Coldfield v. Oldbury; Willingboro v. Stourbridge. Southern Division: Ashford v. Poole; Andover v. Addlestone; Basingstoke v. Woodford; Canterbury v. Cambridge C; Dorchester v. Erith; Gosport v. Tiverton; Hillingdon v. Bowers; Salisbury v. Chatham; Sheppey v. Dunstable; Waterlooville v. Tonbridge.

GREAT MILLS WESTERN LEAGUE. — Bideford v. Wellington; Bristol C v. Paulton; Chippenham v. Weston-super-Mare; Clandown v. Barnstaple; Clevedon v. Chard; Devizes v. Bristol Manor Farm; Frome v. Dorchill; Mangotsfield v. Saltash; Plymouth v. Exmouth; Shepton Mallet v. Tuinehead.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE — Accrington Stanley v. Burscough; Eastwood Hanley v. Radcliffe Boro; Formby v. Bootle; Leek v. Lancaster; Leyland Motors v. Glossop; St Helens v. Curzon Ashton; Stalybridge Celtic v. Caernarfon. Winsford v. Prescot Cables.

THIRD DIVISION

Bournemouth v. Reading
Brentford v. Bristol City
Bristol Rovers v. Plymouth
Burnley v. Preston NE
Cambridge Utd v. Newport
Gillingham v. York City
Lincoln v. Bolton
Millwall v. Bradford City
Rotherham v. Hull City
Walsall v. Orient
Wigan Ath v. Swansea, postponed.

DRYBROUGHS NORTHERN LEAGUE.—First Division: Gulf 2.30) Chester le Street v. South Bank. Crook v. Whitley Bay. Ferryhill v. Consett. Horden v. Gretna. Ryhope v. Peterlee. Shildon v. Blyth S. Spennymoor v. North Shields. Tow Law v. Billingham Syn.

Rugby Union

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL CUP. — Fourth Round: Bath v. Blackheath, Gloucester v. Sarcens; Harlequins v. Lichfield (2.30) Liverpool v. Leicester (2.45); Lydney v. Sale; Moseley v. Coventry; Nottingham v. Ldn Welsh. Waterloo v. Wasps (2.45).

SCHWEPPES WELSH CUP. — Fourth Round: Bridgend v. Seven Sisters; Cardiff v. Neath; Llanelli v. South Wales Police; Pontypool v. Swansea.

CLUB MATCHES.—Aberavon v. Penarth; Camborne v. Penzance & N. Cross; Keys v. Ebbw Vale. Gosforth v. Exeter (2.30); Harrogate v. Broughton Pk; Hartlepool Rovers v. Headingley (2.30); Ldn Irish v. Richmond (2.45); Ldn Scottish v. Met Police (2.30); Newbridge v. Maesteg; Northampton v. Brinkenhead Pk; Nuneaton v. Glamorgan W; Plymouth Alb v. Birmingham; Preston Grasshoppers v. Middlesbro; Rosslyn Pk v. Oxford Univ (2.30); Rugby v. Morley (2.30); Sheffield v. Bromford & Bingley; Vale of Lune v. Wilmslow (2.30); Wakefield v. Cheltenham (2.30); W Hartlepool v. Manchester (2.30).

SCHWEPPES SCOTTISH LEAGUE.—Ayr v. Stewarts Mel FP; Edinburgh Acads v. Glasgow Acads; Hawick v. Jed-Forest; Melrose v. Gala; Selkirk v. Kelso. Watsonians v. Boroughmuir; West of Scotland v. Heriots FP.

FOURTH DIVISION

Aldershot v. Scunthorpe
Blackpool v. Southend
Bury v. Northampton (3.15)
Chester v. Darlington
Crewe v. Peterborough
Exeter v. Halifax
Hartlepool v. Wrexham
Hereford v. Torquay
Port Vale v. Stockport
Swindon v. Rochdale
Wigan Ath v. Swansea, postponed.

Ice Hockey

HEINEKEN LEAGUE.—Premier Division: Durham Wasps v. Murrayfield Racers (1.0), Dundee Rockets v. Streatham Redskins (5.30). Fife Flyers v. Ayr Bruins (7.0). Nottingham Panthers v. Southampton Vikings (6.30).

CHALLENGE MATCH.—Cleveland Bombers v. Dec Mills Comets (Toronto, 6.30).

FIRST DIVISION. — Blackpool Seagulls v. Bournemouth Stags (7.0). Lee Valley Lions v. Grimsby Buffaloes (5.0).

TOMORROW

HEINEKEN LEAGUE.—Premier Division: Durham Wasps v. Dundee Rockets (6.30). Murrayfield Racers v. Streatham Redskins (6.30). Whitley Warriors v. Southampton Vikings (6.30).

FIRST DIVISION.—Glasgow Dynamos v. Altrincham Aces (6.0). Peterborough Pirates v. Gl Solihull Barons (6.30). Richmond Flyers v. Crowtree Chiefs (5.45).

Basketball

MEN'S FIRST DIVISION. — Bracknell Pirates v. Sunderland Maestros (8.0). Davenports Birmingham v. Cotrills Manchester Giants (8.0). Homespare Bolton v. Sperrings Solent Stars (8.0). John Carr Doncaster v. Poundstretcher Hemel & Watford (8.0). Kingcraft Kingston v. Crystal Palace Supersonics (8.0). Nissan Bears Worthing v. Portsmouth FC (8.0). Second Division: ANC Liverpool v. Team Wakefields Nottingham (8.0). John Eid Derby Turbos v. Cad Tower Hamlets (8.0). Sandwell Mall v. Swindon Rakers (8.0).

WOMEN'S FIRST DIVISION. — Kingcraft Kingston v. Homecare Bolton (6.0). Lons don YMCA v. Solent Sons (2.0). Sheffield Hatters v. Enfield Browns (6.0). Vogue Travel Manchester v. Dalkeith Crystal Palace (8.0).

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Celtic v. Aberdeen
Dundee Utd v. Dumbarton
Hearts v. Rangers
Morton v. Dundee
St Mirren v. Hibernian

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION

Airdrie v. St Johnstone
Ayr v. Brechin
Clydebank v. Hamilton
East Fife v. Clyde
Meadowbank v. Forfar
Motherwell v. Kilmarnock
Partick Th v. Falkirk

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION

Arbroath v. Berwick
Cowdenbeath v. Raith Rovers
Queen of South v. Alloa
Queen's Park v. Albion Rovers
Stenhousemuir v. E Stirlingshire
Stirling Albion v. Montrose.
Stranraer v. Dunfermline

Rugby League

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP.—Second Round: Warrington v. Wigan (2.15).

TOMORROW

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP.—First Round: Bradford N. v. Southend Invicta (3.30); Leigh v. Huddersfield (3.30); Mansfield M. v. Hunslet (3.30); Whitehaven v. Wakefield T. (3.30). Second Round: Bramley v. Salford (3.30); Castleford v. Workington (3.30); Halifax v. Hull; Rochdale v. Hull KR; Widnes v. Runcorn.

SLALOM LAGER CHAMPIONSHIP.—Barrow v. St Helens (2.30).

SECOND DIVISION.—Bridgend v. Sheffield E; Dewsbury v. Carlisle (3.30); Doncaster v. Keighley (2.30).

Hockey

SERVICES.—Brooklands v. Army (2.30). Bowdon v. R Navy, Tulse Hill v. Army.

SITACT LEAGUE. — Cannock v. S Notts; Chesterfield v. Olton; Khalsa v. Pickerell; L Westleigh v. Coventry; N Saints v. Bournville; Nottingham v. Barford, Redditch v. Harborne; Stone v. Stourport.

SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE. — Brean v. Swindon; CS Bath v. Gloucester Firebrands; Cricketts Ilsea v. Bristol Moriands; v. W Glos, Plymouth v. Marlborough; T Vale v. Cheltenham.

WOMEN'S B INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT (Old Trafford, Manchester).—England v. Scotland (10 0). Ireland v. Wales (10 45). England v. Ireland (1.45). Scotland v. Wales (2.30).

WOMEN'S UNDER-18 INTERNATIONAL (Unofficial).—England v. Netherlands (Platts Lane, Manchester, 5.0).

WOMEN'S COUNTY. — Wilts v. Warwicks (Swindon).

TOMORROW

HA. CUP. — First national round: East Grinstead v. Hounslow (Bisham 3pm).

COUNTY.—Beds v. Lincs (Wardown Park, Luton). Berks v. RAF (Bisham 12). Derby v. Notts (Belper).

SERVICES (11am) Bowdon v. Army, Brooklands v. R. Navy.

REPRESENTATIVE.—British Polytechnics v. Civil Service U21 (Eltham 2.15). London Univ. v. Purples. U. Loughtonians v. Essex U 21. Occidentals v. Easthamians (Cheltenham).

SURREY CUP. — Quarter final: London Univ v. Oxford.

WELSH CUP.—Semi finals: (2pm). Cardiff v. Colwyn Bay. UC Swansea v. Swansea.

WOMENS' UNDER-18 INTERNATIONAL (Unofficial). England v. Netherlands (Old Trafford, Manchester 9.45am).

WOMENS UAU CHAMPIONSHIP. — Final: Loughborough v. Newcastle (Bath Univ. 2pm).

WOMENS COUNTY.—Lincs v. Cambridge Univ. (Spalding). W. Clwyd v. I. M. Marsh (St Asaph).

TOURRMENTS.—East Counties and Schools Indoor Championships (Kelsey Kerridge SC, Cambridge). Midland Counties Indoor Finals (Alfreton). South Clubs Indoor Championships (Guildford, and Woking) West Clubs Indoor Finals (Bristol).

WOMENS CLUB.—Slough v. WRAF.



SOCCER DIARY

Patrick Barclay

Cheesed off in Parma



McILROY: His artistry charmed the crowd . . .

When England's mighty men were halted



Five days before England play in Northern Ireland in a World Cup match, Robert Armstrong recalls his Belfast childhood of the 1950s when the Irish matched the sporting legends from over the sea

MY FIRST encounter with England's might — as I then perceived it — took place one bright October afternoon in 1956. Home internationals were played on Saturdays in the brilliantined 50s so my father was able to finish work by midday at the local aeroplane factory and accompany his 12-year-old son to their first international together at Windsor Park, Belfast.

I was far from hooked on soccer to the exclusion of all other sports — that would have been impossible at a school where Rugby Union was a religion — but I was impressionable bait for sporting legends of any kind from across the Irish Sea. They did not come any bigger than Billy Wright, Stanley Matthews and Tommy Taylor, who to this day enjoy in my mind a mythic status that no other footballer has rivalled.

Of course, we had our own proven heroes from Belfast, like Danny Blanchflower, Billy Bingham and Jimmy McIlroy, who had all made a major impact in the English First Division but they seemed almost human in comparison to the supermen (superstars not yet having been invented) who trotted out confidently in those famous black shorts and white shirts. To see such men in the flesh under the baleful glare of the Black Mountain was about as much as one child's imagination could encompass.

There could not have been many fewer than 50,000 jammed into Windsor Park that afternoon, thousands of them, including me and my father, occupying the terraces that have since been replaced by the North Stand. If I had thrown a stone over my shoulder it would have landed on the roof of my Uncle Isaac's house in Olympia Drive, where we had all lived together for a few years after the war.

The confrontation between my domestic world and the English invaders equipped to sweep all before them was palpable. After all, I had recently fished with jam jars for "spricks" (tadpoles) in the bog meadows behind the Spion Kop where a training pitch now stands. How could England fail to lay waste an environment given over to such amiable pursuits?

What I failed to realise that day was the fact that Northern Ireland's inspirational manager, Peter Doherty, had developed a backbone of the team that was to sweep to the World Cup quarter-finals — within two years. In his own playing days the flame-haired Doherty had been an exponent of total football decades before the phrase became fashionable and under his guidance the Irish showed the same astonishing passion and commitment every time they proudly pulled on the green shirt.

I have no detailed recollection of the goals that produced an honourable 1-1 draw, except that they were scored by McIlroy and the 41-year-old Matthews. The pristine images that still spring to mind are the personal duels that characterised a titanic struggle between two sides stoutly refusing to concede ground or possession without a contest.

There was not a single bad foul to sully he dignity of the occasion though both teams boasted their fair share of hard competitors like Byrne and Clayton for England and Casey and McParland for the Irish. It was the decade when dirty stuff would still have been greeted with contempt by players and supporters. At least, that was the way of it with a knowledgable Belfast crowd bred on the elegant artisty of a man like McIlroy.

It was no mere accident that the game's aristocrats like Matthews and McIlroy were often described as "immaculate" in the Sunday newspapers: the quasi-religious terinology expressed a desire for sporting purity and perfection of a kind that has long since passed into the realm of nostalgia. The magical property associated with footballing skill gave rise to terms like "master" and "wizard" which really belong to parable and myth.

For that amber afternoon the roll call of personal collision would have done credit to an old Norse saga. McParland versus Htil on the Irish left flank, Matthews versus McMichael on the English right, Harry Gregg against Taylor, Wilshaw and Revie in the Irish goal trea and to cap them al there wts the incomparable Duncan Edwards, t young maestro who showed his elders that genius is a gift not an acquisition.

Perhaps the most poignant image of tll was the relentless duel between Billy Wright and the Irish centre-forward, Jimmy Jones. Jimmy who? Jones wts a burly, balding local legend who played for Glenavon in the Irish League scoring about 750 goals in a rumbustious career lating for two decades. Like the better-known Gerd Muller of West Germany, he believed a forward could find his raison d'etre only in the penalty area or better still, the six-yard box.

Jones's courage was a by-word in Northern Ireland. In the late 40s his place in local history was guaranteed when, as a Belfist Celtic players, he was subjected to a vicious sectarian assault by Linfield's supporters, who threw him over the wtll of Windsor Park. It took Jones nearly a year to recover from a broken leg that htd to be re-set several times. Celtic left the Irish League.

On his great day Jones was never left off a short leash by the cool, hard-tackling Wright. But he won three caps in all, scored a goal against Wales and gained the admiration of thousands for his indomitable spirit in building a successful career after his early misfortune. In retrospect, Jones's aggression and determination probably kept Wright busy enough to prevent England from establishing a platform for t second goal. Perhaps thtt is how Jones should be remembered.

As we walked home over the railway bridge my father—t centre-half of some ability until he was 40—remarked sceptically that "some of these big players from tcross the water are not all they are crtcked up to be." I said nothing because, somewhat obscurely, I believed that fate would remain on our side if we gave the English the respect they deserved. A year later Northern Ireland defeated England 3-2 at Wembley with Billy Simpson of Rangers scoring the winning gotl.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Paul Fitzpatrick on an illuminating account of a tour that fell apart

Life with Britain's losing Lions

GREAT BRITAIN'S tour of Australasia last summer was, ultimately, a sorry tale. Against an Australian side inferior to the one which had thrilled crowds here in 1982, they lost all three Tests. Then, as morale which had been largely buoyant began to evaporate, they were beaten in all three Tests in New Zealand as well.

Such a record gave them the stigma of being the least successful tourists since the first British players set sail from Tilbury aboard the Osterly in 1910. Yet not all was gloom, and more good probably came from this tour than that embarrassing misadventure in 1979. Not least, it made a profit.

The British players, certainly in Australia, left behind a far more favourable impression than 1979's reluctant tourists. Australian critics, at first highly sceptical, were impressed by the planning and the hard work that went into training, by the worthy behaviour of the players off the field and by their improved performances on it.

Players such as Garry Schofield, Ellery Hanley, Des Drummond, Mick Burke, Keith Mumby, Brian Noble and above all perhaps, Andy Goodway—members of a squad whose average age was only 24—helped to convince doubtful Australian audiences that the British were an emerging power again. Some of these players were even impressive enough to be invited back to play in the fierce world of Australian RL.

But when the tour moved on to New Zealand, decline set in. Rod McKenzie the fitness expert from Carnegie College went home and the squad was left without its most potent force. McKenzie had done a magnificent job in Australia in bringing the players to levels of mental and physical excellence possibly previously unequalled.

Without him, discipline began to disintegrate and, as Ray French says in his account of the tour, The Rugby League Lions, the accumulation of club T-shirts began to assume a greater importance than Test caps. There was more than one instance of balls for training being left behind and the tackle shields, such an important part of training in Australia, were quietly put away. The weaknesses of the manager, disguised in Australia, were increasingly exposed.

There were many lessons to be learned from this experience but the overriding one possibly is that tours as at present constituted are too long, and, as French says, the feasibility of separate tours to Australia and New Zealand must be thoroughly examined.

It is distressing to think that there has never before been a day-by-day account of a Lions' Rugby League tour. All that remains of what must have been so many fascinating campaigns are memories and statistics. The 1984 Lions are lucky. They have been well-served by French in this truthful and entertaining, compassionate but critical account of their travels.

The whole has been that much more rounded too, with three accounts of famous Tests from the past acting as an appetising hors d'oeuvres and as a reminder of precisely what British-Australian Test rugby signifies; and with French doing some superb research into the Lions' preparation prior to leaving for Australia. A fine selection of photographs, meaningfully captioned, enhance an invaluable production.

All devotees of the game will enjoy this book but it would be good to think that the next time those responsible come to plan the next tour they will have digested everything French has to say. Never again can there be any excuse for repeating some of the mistakes made on this tour.

The Rugby League Lions: Australia and New Zealand 1984, by Ray French. Published by Faber and Faber, £4.95.

● Carlisle have signed Milton Huddart from their rivals for promotion and neighbours, Whitehaven for an undisclosed fee. The 24-year-old loose-forward, who played for England against Wales in October, makes his Carlisle debut at Dewsbury tomorrow.

Oldham are making an official complaint to the League about an incident in their Challenge Cup tie against Castleford last Sunday, which they lost 14-8. The Castleford trainer crossed the touchline to attend to an injured player, and interfered with an Oldham attack that looked like creating a try.

'Big four' are cleared

BOXING

Top manager Terry Lawless, promoters Mike Barrett and Mickey Duff, and businessman Jarvis Astaire, were last night cleared of allegations that they operated a "cartel" which was detrimental to the interests of boxers.

When the British Boxing Board of Control stewards met in London yesterday, evidence was given on behalf of the four men by former world lightweight champion Jim Watt and manager Andy Smith, who guided Joe Bugner and Green to world title fights.

Watt said: "I was always completely satisfied with Terry's management. He did things for me far beyond the call of duty.

"I had 16 fights with him and for the first few he did not take the 25 per cent of my purses due to him — and that was before there was any thought of making decent money by my winning the world title."

Sylvester Mittee, the Commonwealth welterweight champion, also gave evidence. Mittee, formerly managed by Lawless and now a member of the Warren camp, said: "I did not benefit from such an agreement and neither did some of the other fighters who were not quite so well known.

"I just did not get enough fights. It's been said that I am lazy, but that is rubbish."

The allegations appeared in a Sunday newspaper which alleged that Duff, Barrett, Astaire and Lawless signed an agreemen entitling them to the profits of major boxing promotions in this country and suggested that the fighters concerned were worse off financially by its inception.

David Pearce, the British heavyweight champion, who has been banned for almost a year on medical grounds, had his case for the reinstatement of his licence deferred yet again.

Pearce had been expecting a final decision but the case was adjourned for the second time in nine days pending yet another medical report.

The Welshman has had a series of brain scans as ordered by the board and has produced written evidence from a specialist neuro-surgeon that he is fit to box. The Board still believe, however, that there are good reasons why he should not be allowed to return to the ring.

Pearce visited another specialist two days ago and it is his report that the Board will examine before their meeting on March 13. Pearce has already threatened legal action if his licence is not restored.

Knowles leaves Meo hopping mad

SNOOKER

Tony Meo yesterday avenged three previous defeats by Tony Knowles at professional level to defeat the world No 2 5-2 and earn a place in the quarter-finals of the Dulux British Open Championship in Derby.

The match was soured by an incident in the third frame when Knowles, trailing 0-2, left the playing area for several minutes without apparent cause.

He later explained that he was angry at the length of time Meo was taking over his shots and added: "I got the impression he was doing it deliberately and decided I didn't want to sit there and watch it. So I went to my dressing room for a few minutes."

The correct course of action, if Knowles felt genuinely aggrieved by his opponent's tactics, would have been for him to approach match referee Vic Bartlam and make his feelings known.

Instead, he chose to walk out and, when told later of Knowles's comments, Meo was far from amused, especially as the average playing time per frame was an acceptable 24 minutes.

"He's had a couple of good results since turning professional and it seems they have gone to his head," said Meo. "He's a changed bloke these days and I don't understand him."



MEO: not amused

SPORT IN BRIEF

Dixon beats world best

ATHLETICS: Diane Dixon beat the world indoor best time in the women's 440-yard dash with 52.77 seconds in a heat of the US-Mobil indoor championships at Madison Square Garden, New York.

The previous mark was 52.99 set by Valerie Brisco-Hooks, on February 2 at Dallas.

WEIGHTLIFTING: The 31-year-old Olympic middleweight champion, Karl-Heinz Radschinsky of West Germany, is under investigation for alleged use of anabolic steroids. Sixteen vials of the drug were found at a fitness centre he manages near Nuremberg.

SAILING: The 21 boats which the Nassau Yacht Club committee failed to identify on the finishing line of the Miami to Nassau race have proved vital to the overall scoring of the Southern Ocean Racing Conference, *writes Bob Fisher*. After the protest committee had heard evidence from the skippers, Charley Scott's J-41 Smiles was placed first in Class E and third in fleet, and now heads the overall standings 15.5 points ahead of her class mate Glory. Geoff Stagg's Snake Oil is another 10 points astern, so it would be difficult for Smiles to be beaten with only the 30-mile Nassau Cup, which counts single points, to come.

CROSS COUNTRY: Angela Tooby, the 24-year-old Cardiff international who won the English women s championship at Birkenhead last weekend, chases another national title today when she challenges for the Welsh championship at Swansea. Victory would guarantee her a place in the Welsh team to compete in the World Championships in Lisbon next month.

Defending champion Nat Muir faces a challenge from more than 2,200 competitors in the Scottish National Championships at the Jack Kane Centre in Edinburgh today.

SWIMMING: The 19-year-old British backstroke champion, Cathy White, has joined City of Leeds following a dispute over sponsorship with her South Tyneside club. She had to make a round trip of 80 miles, several times a week, to be coached at South Tyneside but now she will join fellow international Adrian Moorhouse and be coached by Terry Donnison at Leeds.

SKIING: Sweden's Olympic champion Gunde Swan retained the lead after the seventh stage of the World Cup Nordic championships at Syktyuktar, USSR, yesterday.



HEAD TO THE WALL: Peter Lundgren hides his face after losing to fellow Swede, Stefan Eriksson. Picture by Tommy Hindley

Eriksson triumphs in marathon

TENNIS

Jubilation for Stefan Eriksson; disappointment and frustration for Peter Lundgren. That was the dramatic finish to the Masters final of the LTA Satellite Circuit at the David Lloyd Centre, Heston yesterday.

Eriksson, after being within two points of defeat, won a tremendous three-hour final 7-6, 4-6, 7-5. Afterwards he described it as the "toughest and longest match I have ever played."

Later he joined Lundgren to beat Jeremy Bates and Bruce Derlin 6-4, 6-7, 6-3 in the doubles final.

Lundgren, the pacemaker of the circuit from the start, virtually threw it away with two bad shots at 5-3, 30-0 in the final set. He was so frustrated that he smashed his racket and fell to his knees burying his head in his towel, apparently in tears.

In contrast this was a classic win from behind for the 6ft 3in Eriksson, not only in the Masters but on the circuit as a whole. He lost in the opening round of the first leg, but progressed to the semi-finals in the second week, followed by the final in the third week and then won the fourth week before coming to the Masters.

Eriksson's recovery started in the fifth game of the final set when a racket, broken in the first set was restrung with gut and returned to him. Until then he had been making do with a racket that had synthetic strings.

In addition to his cheque for £2,664, Eriksson has collected 26 computer points, which will give a big lift to his modest 308 world ranking.

● Chris Lloyd outlasted Peanut Louie on most of their long rallies and won 6-2, 6-2 in the second round of the Virginia Slims Tournament at Oakland, California.

Louie, with a similar baseline game to Lloyd's, made her share of strong shots but could not match the steadiness of the top-seeded player.

● Bud Schultz, playing in only his fourth GP event, upset his fellow-American John Sadri 6-7, 6-2, 6-4 in the second round of the Toronto Challenge. Anders Jarryd of Sweden recovered from a first-set deficit and a warning for verbal abuse to beat another American Mike Depalmer 4-6, 6-1, 6-4.

Pat Rowley

England up Bisham rate

HOCKEY

The old order changeth. Hard on the appointment of David Whitaker as paid coach to the England team, comes two other breaks with tradition.

England who start their preparations for next year's World Cup at Willesden with training at Bisham this weekend, will receive coaching not only from Whitaker and the manager Colin Whalley but also from the Under-21 and indoor officials, Ivan Clark, Richard de Figeuiredo and Carl Ward.

They will also face unusual opposition at a training weekend. Tomorrow morning they meet the Dutch First Division club, HDM, in a 3 x 30 minute game. The Dutch side are over here preparing for the resumption of their league programme after the winter break.

Two Olympic players, Stephen Batchelor and Richard Dodds, and the Under-21 international, Soma Singh, have had to withdraw from the weekend and have been replaced by the internationals Peter Abreo and Brennan Green and the indoor international Ian Jennings. Jeremy Cox was also called up but has declined his invitation.

It doesn't look as if England will get the opportunity to play India in their World Cup build-up. The Indians have cabled that they cannot accept an invitation to take part in the quadrangular tournament at Willesden in October.

The HA now have a problem filling the fourth place. Most of the world's leading countries will be involved in the Inter-Continental Cup in October.

● Neither England nor Scotland looked likely to figure among the medal winners on the evidence of a 5-5 draw in their opening game of the European Under 21 Indoor Finals in Vienna last night.

Il a closely-fought game England were unable to build on an early two goal lead after set piece goals from Dennys Shortt and Pat Greenwood, and were fortunate to led 3-2 at the intervtl. Ian Brown and Kevin Clark pulled goals back for Scotland and Pat Osborne converted a penalty stroke for England's third.

Impressive England

England and Scotland both opened with resounding victories at the Home Countries B International Tournament at Old Trafford yesterday.

England looked impressive 4-0 winners over a young Welsh side who were under great defensive pressure. A fifth minute penalty stroke awarded for a goalline foul was powerfully converted by Angela Cannell, whose commanding play enhanced her claim to the senior squad. Jane Swinnerton, dropped to the B squad, gave a typical reply with forceful play and three fine goals.

The surprise of the day was Scotland's 5-1 demolition of an uncharacteristically tame Irish team. The rampant Scots over ran Ireland, with Lois Connell gaining a hat-trick, two from penalty corners. Sheena Macdonald, scorer of Scotland's third goal, gave an inspirational display in midfield, with Margaret Duncan completing the rout.

At Willesden, England's under-21 team lost to the Netherlands, the European champions. Sally Ghilks nullified the penalty-corner threat of Helen Van Der Ben with a great display in goal, but first-half goals from De Leeuw and Abendanon (two) reflected the Dutch superiority.

● Dennis Hay, at present coach to the Scottish women's team is the new coach to Great Britain's women's team.

Janet Ruff

RESULTS

Golf

NIGERIAN OPEN (Lagos).—Second round leaders (British unless stated): 139, M. Mackenzie 69, 69; 141, J. Morgan 70, 71; D. Jaeger 73, 68; P. Thomas 70, 71; 142, W. Longmuir 69, 73; P. Akakasiaka (Nig) 73, 69; 144, W. Gregson 72, 72; B. Barnes 72, 72; T. Horton 73, 71; A. Jacklin 71, 73; W. McGolf 71, 73; P. Osunebi (Nig) 72, 72; K. Waters 71, 73; P. Tupling 76, 68; C. Brookshaw 72, 72; G. Brand Snr 69, 75; 145, G. Harvey 72, 73; C. Platts 76, 69; C. Ralph 73, 72; C. Maltman 69, 76; G. Daries 69, 76.

PALABORA CLASSIC.—Third round leaders (S Africa unless stated): 200, M. McNulty 65, 70, 67; 206, H. Baiocchi 71, 67, 68; 208, M. Claassens 71, 67, 70; R. Hartman (US) 71, 69, 68; 209, G. Levenson 71, 72, 66; 210, I. Mosey (68) 71, 70, 69; 211, R. Lewellon (US) 74, 70, 67; F. Beaver 71, 73, 67; L. O'Kennedy 69, 73, 69; A. Johnstone (Zim) 69, 69, 73; 212, W. Humphreys (US) 73, 73, 66; D. Smith (US) 72, 74, 66; J. Gonzales (Bra) 73, 69, 70; A. Doshuizen 71, 68, 73; E. Webber 71, 70, 71.

LPGA TOURNAMENT (Tucson).—Leading scores (US unless stated): 70, D. Massey, A-M. Palli (Fra); 71, P. Bradley, M. Spencer-Devlin; C. Hill, A. Okamoto (Jap), L. Young, B. Lauer, K. Whitworth, B. Bunkowsky (Can); A. Miller, A. Ritzman, Other scores included: 75, P. Putz (Aust); 76, S. Stephitzke (Aust).

ORIENTAL-EASTERN OPEN (Miami).—Leading scores (US unless stated): 68, G. Twiggs; 69, L. Trevino, F. Cupples; 70, A. Bean, R. Jacklin, P. Oosterhuis (GB); R. Wrenn, S. Gilbert... W. Kolczewski, M. McCumber. Other scores included: 73, D. Barr (Can); 74, B. Langer (WG); 78, S. Ballesteros (Spa).

Tennis

TORONTO TOURNAMENT.—Men's Singles, Second Round (US unless stated): A. Jarryd (Swe) beat M. Dupuimey 6-4, 6-1; W. Fibak (Pol) beat F. Gonzales (Par) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; K. Curren (SA) beat P. Annacone 7-6, 6-3; B. Schultz beat J. Sadri 6-7, 6-2, 6-4.

OAKLAND TOURNAMENT. — Women's Singles, Second Round (US unless stated): A. Sukova (Czech) beat D. Spencer 6-1, 4-6, 6-1; C. Kohde-Kilsch (WG) beat A. Moulton 6-1, 6-2; B. Potter beat R. White 6-3, 6-4; C. Lloyd beat P. Louis 6-3, 6-2; H. Mandlikova (Czech) beat K. Schaefer 6-0, 6-1; A. Taxeevan (Hun) beat C. Tanvier (Fra) 7-5, 6-4. Women's Doubles, Second Round: Kilsch and Sukova beat Moulton and P. Smith 6-2, 6-2; R. Fairbank (SA) and C. Reynolds beat B. Bunge (WG) and L. Gildemeister 6-1, 6-4.

LTA SATELLITE MASTERS (Heston).—Singles, Final: S. Eriksson (Swe) beat P. Lundgren (Swe) 7-6, 4-6, 7-5. Doubles, Final: Eriksson and Lundgren beat J. Bates (Surrey) and B. Derlin (NZ) 6-4, 6-7, 6-3.

Cricket

SHEFFIELD CUP

SYDNEY.—Queensland (first innings) 156 (G. Ritchie 59). New South Wales (first innings) 71 for 0.

ADELAIDE. — South Australia (first innings) 338 for 6 (M. Hayman 135 not out, D. Hookes 83) v. Western Australia.

DEVONPORT. — Victoria (first innings) 179 for 4 (D. Whatmore 64, G. Yallop 51) v. Tasmania.

TOUR MATCH

BULAWAYO.—English Counties XI (first innings) 388 (P. Bainbridge 147 not out, M. Nicholas 91). Zimbabwe B (first innings) 54 for 0.

Snooker

DULUX BRITISH OPEN (Derby).—Third Round: T. Mee (Mordon) beat T. Knowles (Bolton) 5-2. Frame scores (Mee first): 65-61, 55-20, 40-56, 38-49, 92-14, 71-40, 75-43.

Bowls

WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Melbourne). — Singles, First Round: Botswana (F. Anderson) 21, Scotland (S. McCrone) 17; England (N. Shaw) 21, Wales (J. Davies) 19; United States (P. Boehm) 21, Ireland (E. Ball) 17. Second Round: Botswana 21, England 18; Fiji (M. Lum On) 21, Scotland 10; Wales 21, United States 12. Third Round: Ireland 21, Wales 9. Fours, First Round: Scotland 24, Botswana 17; Wales 18, England 17. Second Round: Scotland 28, Fiji 15; England 40, Argentina 2; Wales 23, United States 16. Third Round: Scotland 56, Kenya 8, Hong Kong 28, England 18.

POINTS STANDINGS. — Singles: 3, Australia, Fiji, Zimbabwe, 2, Canada, England, Ireland New Zealand, Papua New Guinea United States, Western Samoa, 1, Argentina, Botswana, Hong Kong, Israel, Jersey, Scotland, Wales, 0, Kenya, Swaziland, Fours: 6, Scotland, Zimbabwe; 5, Australia, New Zealand; 4, Hong Kong, Western Samoa, Wales; 3, Israel; 2, Canada, England, Fiji, Ireland, Jersey, Kenya, Swaziland, United States; 1, Botswana; 0, Argentina, Papua New Guinea.

Hockey

EUROPEAN JUNIOR INDOOR FINALS (Vienna).—England 5, Scotland 5; France 9, Poland 10; Spain 6, Austria 5.

WOMEN'S B TOURNAMENT (Old Trafford).—England 4, Wales 0; Scotland 5, Ireland 1.

Sailing

SOUTHERN OCEAN RACING CONF Overall standings (after Miami-Nassau race): 1, Smiles (C. Scott) 434.2; 2, Glory (J. Buchan) 418.7; 3, Snake Oil (G. Stagg) 408.1; 4, Sleeper (L. North) 383.8; 5, Total Eclipse (B. Shore) 381.7; 6, Fair Lady (E. Deckenn) 376.8.

Boxing

COMMONWEALTH LIGHTWEIGHT CH'SHIP (Sydney). — Barry Michael (Aust) beat Graham Brooke (Aust, holder) pts.

HOCKEY LEAGUE TABLES

NORTH-WEST LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Neston	10	2	0	40	7	32
Brooklands	8	2	2	30	8	26
Higkton	5	6	0	15	4	21
Warrington	5	4	2	18	9	19
Sefton	5	4	2	18	16	19
Bowdon	5	3	4	20	16	18
Preston	4	5	1	14	12	17
Southport	4	4	3	14	12	16
Alderley Edge	3	6	4	14	17	15
Northern	3	5	2	9	9	14
Wilmington Park	4	2	6	21	27	14
Young Mayfians	2	4	6	13	21	10
Chester	1	5	4	4	9	8
Cheetham Hill	1	2	8	5	25	5
Bebington	1	2	9	8	32	5
Bury	0	4	8	7	26	4

ATARI LONDON LEAGUE
PREMIER DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slough	3	2	0	14	7	11
Blackheath	3	1	0	10	4	10
Beckenham	2	0	1	9	4	9
Hounslow	2	1	1	9	7	7
Southgate	2	1	1	11	9	7
Teddington	1	2	1	4	5	5
Teise Hill	1	2	2	4	8	5
Richmond	1	2	3	12	18	5
St Albans	0	2	2	9	13	2
Dulwich	0	2	5	4	20	2

NORTHERN PREMIER INDOOR LEAGUE

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Welton	12	0	1	82	34	36
Doncaster	8	3	3	69	40	27
Alderley Edge	7	5	4	90	82	26
Sheffield	7	2	5	65	55	23
Scarlsgarth	4	0	5	57	54	14
Wakefield	3	0	6	39	52	12
Norton	3	1	7	53	70	10
Chester	3	1	12	59	97	10
Sunderland	2	2	10	62	92	8

TRUMAN INDOOR LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION
(Final table)

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slough	9	0	0	114	61	18
Teise Hill	6	1	2	98	77	13
St Albals	5	3	1	80	61	13
Blackheath	6	0	3	114	93	12
Fareham	3	1	5	71	85	7
E Grinstead	4	1	4	72	80	7
Southgate	3	1	5	71	80	7
Teddington	3	0	6	77	96	6
Beckenham	2	1	6	82	68	5
Guildford	0	0	9	44	115	0

(*—Penalised 2 points)

MARLBOROUGH CARPETS
(Final Table)

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Firebrands	4	1	0	56	14	9
Cardiff	4	0	1	48	20	8
Swansea	3	0	2	40	29	6
Newport	1	1	3	17	54	3
Gloucester	0	2	3	24	31	2
Bath Busc	1	0	4	16	53	2

CHESS

Leonard Barden

THE annual ARC Young Masters, sponsored by Amey Roadstone at its traditional village venue in Westergate, Sussex, is almost unique among weekend tournaments. Over the years it has played a major role in stimulating the constant supply of promising young players for which British chess is now noted.

The ARC's concept, pioneered by its energetic organiser Peter Barton, is to attract leading British GMs and IMs by a substantial prize fund (the winner collects £1,000) and to give school and university players, some very young, the chance to take them on. This formula guarantees fighting chess with a fair chance of upset results. Generally the established names come out at the top, but juniors gain vital experience for the future. Newcomers find the weekend a useful dummy run for the harder nine day Lloyds Bank competition later in the year which also follows a master-junior pattern.

Over the years ARC has been so successful that I am surprised no other country has set up a parallel event. This year's invitation had a particularly competitive line-up since several visitors took advantage of its proximity to the *Novag* Commonwealth championship a week later.

Final leading scores were *Johansson (Australia)*, Conquest (age 17), Hodgson (21), and Speelman all 5/6, Spraggett (Canada), Rogers (Australia), *Hebden, Kosten, Martin,* and Short (19) 4½, Ady, Dunnington (17), Crawley, Howell (17), Levitt (21), Macfarlane (Australia, 19), *Thomas (17)*, and Watson all 4.

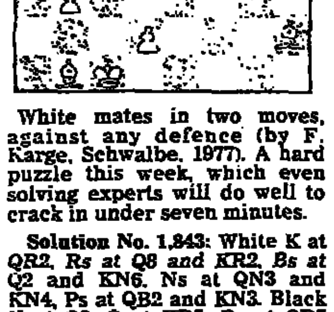
Stuart Conquest, joint winner, finished near the bottom in one of the earlier ARC tournaments, which demonstrates the point about gaining experience. His win over Rogers (who recently achieved a grandmaster result) was a fine example of sustained attack, where White's sacrifices eventually regained lost material with ample interest.

Stuart Conquest (England)—Ian Rogers (Australia) Queen's Indian Defence (ARC 1985)

1 P-Q4 N-KB3	2 N-KB3 P-K3
3 P-K3 P-B4	4 B-Q3 P-QN3
5 O-O B-N2	6 P-QN3 PxP
7 PxP B-K2	8 B-N2 O-O
9 B-K1 P-Q3	10 P-QR3 QN-Q2
11 P-B4 R-K1	12 P-QN4 N-B1
13 N-B3 N-N3	14 P-Q5 P-K4
15 P-N3 N-Q2	16 P-KR4 N(3)-B1
17 P-R5 P-N3	18 B-B2 P-B4
19 B-N3 R-B1	20 N-QN5 R-R1
21 N-N5! P-QR3	22 N-K6 NxN
23 PxN N-B3	24 N-B3 NxP
25 N-Q5 R-QB1	26 R-QB1 N-N2
27 P-B4! NxP	28 PxP PxP
29 RxP B-Q3	30 RxP! PxR
31 N-B6 ch K-B1	32 NxP ch K-N1
33 Q-R5 B-B4 ch	34 PxB N-Q5
35 Q-N6 ch K-R1	36 N-N5 R-B2
37 PxP R-N2	38 Q-R6 ch K-N1
39 P-B5ch B-Q4	40 BxN R(1)-K2
41 RxR Resigns	

Future talent to note at ARC included 14-year-old Dale James, of Oldham, who took the brilliancy prize for his win over the ex-Hampshire No. 1 Pagden; and the youngest competitor, 10-year-old Matthew Sadler, from Chatham, who made a promising 2½/6 in his first master tournament.

No. 1,844



White mates in two moves, against any defence (by F. Karge, Schwalbe, 1977). A hard puzzle this week, which even solving experts will do well to crack in under seven minutes.

Solution No. 1,843: White K at QR2, Rs at Q8 *and* KR2, *Bs at* Q2 and KN6, Ns at QN3 and KN4, Ps at QB2 and KN3. Black K at Q8, Q at KR5, Rs at QR5 and K8, *Ps at* QR6, K4, *and* KR6. Mate in two. 1 B-KR5 (threat 2 N-K3), K x P; 2 B x R, or if Q x N or Q x B; 2 B-N4.

MOTOR Sport; Michele Mouton of France *starts favourite* when the two-day 600-mile National Breakdown International Rally begins from Bradford city centre today. Two other women are among the entry of 72 team for this event.



SCRUM-HALF FLIER . . . Nigel Melville of Wasps

David Frost

Wasps ready for battle

RUGBY UNION

NIGEL MELVILLE, playing scrum half for Wasps against Waterloo at Blundellsands, is one of many England internationals for whom *today's eight fourth-round* John Player Cup matches provide a welcome opportunity for competitive rugby after the forced inactivity of the freeze.

Melville, recovered from his knee trouble, is one of seven international players in Wasps' team. Waterloo have won each of the three *most recent matches between* the two clubs, but wasps have proved they can be a *formidable* side in the Cup. It should be a close match.

Another close game, also in the northern half of the country, can be expected in the tie between Nottingham and London Welsh at Beeston. Nottingham, now with Rob Andrew, England's current stand-off half in their side, *have* shown an admirable fluency and momentum, while the Welsh have been enjoying their most impressive season for some years. The Welsh will have *Andrew Yeandle on the* wing for the first time since October because Jeremy Hughes has not recovered from his ankle injury.

Leicester, who defeated Bristol 43-4 in the third round, are another side who travel northwards today. They will be at full strength for their tie against Liverpool, who will be strengthened by the return of Kevin Simms, the England centre, from Cambridge University. *His defence should* be well tested by the two England centres, Paul Dodge and Clive Woodward, opposite *him.*

On paper the closest of the eight ties should be the local derby between Moseley and Coventry at The Reddings. The clubs have already met twice this season, each side winning once. If any tie is to end with the scores level, it could be this one.

Jon Hall, *the* England wing forward, will this afternoon be playing his first game for three weeks since suffering concussion in the international against France at Twickenham. He will be at wing forward for Bath, the holders of the Cup, who are at home to Blackheath. In last year's fourth round Bath beat Blackheath 41-12, but they can expect a more even match this time.

The three remaining ties *appear more one-sided*. Harlequins should prove too strong all round for Lichfield at The Stoop, as should Gloucester for Saracens at Kingsholm. Gloucester will be without their captain John Orwin, the current England lock, who has flu. His place will be taken by Dick Burn from RAF *Fairford*. Iain Milne, with flu, and Willie Jefferson, with a bruised leg, are out of the Harlequins side, their places going to Paul Curtis and Andre Dent.

Sale will not have forgotten the tough match they had at Lydney two years ago before winning 16-9, but their class should tell there this afternoon provided they keep their heads.

In Wales the quarter-finals of the Schweppes Cup take place *today, with two significant* clashes between big clubs. Cardiff, the holders, are at home to Neath in a *repetition of last year's final*, and Pontypool, who have lost at home only to the Wallabies this season, receive Swansea. In the other games Bridgend should overcome Seven Sisters, while Llanelli, at home to South Wales Police, defeated the same opponents 47-6 last year.

The Welsh selectors will be having a last look round before announcing on Monday the national side to meet Scotland at Murrayfield next *Saturday. They will be* especially keen to examine the form of Bob Norster, the Cardiff and Lions lock, who will be *having his first game* since breaking his jaw on December 22.

Gary Porter, the Metropolitan Police scrum half and captain, is not expected to play again this season. He was unconscious for more than 20 minutes after being knocked out in a boxing tournament on Tuesday.

Alan Jones, the Wallabies' coach, was yesterday re-elected to the post unopposed.

Greenbank Park the right selection

RACING

Richard Baerlein

The abandonment of Kempton this afternoon presents another blow to Jenny Pitman in her efforts to give Burrough Hill Lad two more runs before the Gold Cup in just under three weeks' time. At this stage Mrs Pitman will be lucky to get one run into the 2-1 on favourite.

She will certainly not be tempted to run him in the 3½ mile Long Eaton Chase at Nottingham on Tuesday for he has been given 14st 1lb, with Lucky Vane second top weight with 12 stone. In the Seagram Grand National Burrough Hill Lad is set to give only 20lb to Lucky Vane.

It follows therefore, that if the Nottingham weights are correct Burrough Hill Lad *has plenty in hand in the* National, where he has been weighted as an Aintree newcomer compared with the experienced performers.

Burrough Hill Lad has a more likely engagement in the Greenall Whitley Breweries Handicap Chase at Haydock next Saturday, where he has 12st 4lb, followed by Wayward Lad on 11st 7lb and Half Free at 10st 12lb.

Burrough Hill Lad had already declined *his* engagement for the four-mile Grimthorpe Handicap Chase at Doncaster this afternoon, as did his stable companion Corbiere, Planetman and all the top weights.

Thus, Sunset Christo, originally on the 10st mark, will now carry top weight of 11st 7lb in a disappointing field of six, with the weight ranged at 21lb.

Donald Cox, the manager at Doncaster, is more than hopeful of a resumption this afternoon as the thaw continued throughout yesterday and the course was ready for racing by eventide.

Furthermore, no frost was forecast so the prospects are *the best for some time*.

Unfortunately, Sunset Christo is not the horse he was when finishing third in the 1982 Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham. The distance is *in his favour but he has* been pulled up in three of his five outings this season.

Succeeded beat Brunton Park over three miles, three furlongs at Ayr on Boxing Day. Later, starting at 4-1, *he made little impression* when fourth to Run N'Fly at Carlisle, beaten 31 lengths.

The race should be between him and Greenbank Park, beaten three lengths by Charter Party over three miles at Newbury last time out.

He might well have won but for jumping badly to his right at the second last. He ran another good race at an earlier Newbury meeting, again over three miles when beaten 1½ lengths by Sommelier.

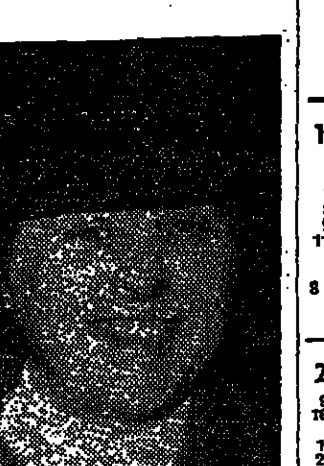
I shall give Greenbank Park slight preference, but his habit of jumping to the right is not all that encouraging.

In the absence of Mercy Rimell's Celtic Flight I shall go for Fighter Pilot in the Flamborough Head Novices Hurdle. Through Moon Mariner it did not look possible for him to beat Celtic Flight.

Macedonian has not been out since finishing a distance fourth to Arapaho Prince at Huntingdon on Boxing Day when starting 9-4 joint-favourite. He had won by 15 lengths when 5-2 favourite at Kelso in his previous race.

Luxury was beaten six lengths by Amber Heights at Catterick, but there is no doubt that Fighter Pilot has the best chance.

The Ladbroke Novices Hurdle Handicap is by far the most interesting race of the day and Monica Dickinson's Hand Over is the likely favourite after finishing fifth to Comedy Fair at Ayr. Earlier he had won three times and finished second and third in his other two races.



JENNY PITMAN . . . problems with Gold Cup favourite

The ground will not be *soft* enough for Winart, while Welsh Oak has shown little in his last three races. Swop Shop has two seconds to her *credit* and *looks sure* to win.

Dover was my nap at Kempton on December 27 when favourite and unplaced behind a 10-lengths winner Fiery Party. Welsh Oak finished fourth and now receives 1lb instead of giving a pound. As Dover so clearly run well below his form that day following two victories I shall give him a chance to atone.

Roman Mariner, even with a 4lb *penalty, looks* home and dry in the Light Infantry Handicap Hurdle after his victory at Sendgefield. Although he beat Cut n Dry three quarters of a length he is still 3lb better off and should improve further as that was his seasonal debut. Golden Fancy (1.45) and Cork (3.45) should also win their respective races.

Freeze still hitting racing

● Southwell was abandoned yesterday because of frost, making nine blank racing days in Britain. Stratford and Kempton have also been cancelled today, with Leicester's Monday meeting in the balance with snow and frost still on the course. Hopes are high, though, for a resumption at Doncaster today, where a precautionary 7.30 am inspection will be held. *Clerk-of-the-course Pat Firth said yesterday that the* course is frost-free, Doncaster are scheduled to race again on Monday.

Chris Hawkins sums up today's televised racing

Succeeded a marathon type

DONCASTER (ITV)

1.45 (2m Ch): BLACKFEET should be fit, having *run two weeks ago when* making all to win in fast time at Ayr. His main rival, State Case, unseated his rider two out but looked beaten at the time. Abu Torkey has never won over fences and although he has ability is a disappointing animal. Norton Cavalier has been lightly raced in the last two seasons and finished a remote fourth to Grima on his only outing at Stratford three weeks ago, but on his old hurdles form he would have a squeak.

2.15 (4m Ch): SUCCEEDED is a plodder, but this is a plodder's distance and he should run much better than when 30 lengths fourth to Run 'n Fly over three miles at Carlisle last time. Previously he had beaten Brunton Park over three and a half miles at Ayr. Greenbank Park has some useful form, notably when unplaced at Towcester and West Tip at Newbury last month and when second to Charter Party again at Newbury 15 days ago. In between he ran abysmally when dividing Sommelier so he may not be totally reliable. Rockin Berry has benefited from the rise in weights and was not disgraced when second to Fred Pilliner at Hereford.

2.45 (2m Hdle): HAND OVER ran a curious race at Ayr last time when fifth to Comedy Fair. Nothing looked to be going better turning for home, but for no apparent reason he lost his place and then ran on again. At least that race two weeks ago should ensure he is pretty *fit and he should be involved* in the finish.

3.15 (3m Hdle): ROMAN MARINER *drifted* in the betting on his seasonal reappearance at Sedgefield 15 days ago, but was still good enough to beat Cut 'n Dry by three-quarters of a length. That was over two and half *miles but, despite being by* the sprinter Roman Warrior, he has won over three miles and, meeting Cut 'n Dry on 3lb better terms here, must be the selection. Bally-Go was a good staying hurdler two seasons ago but has been running with some success over fences.

PUNCHESTOWN (BBC1)

2.0 (2m Hdle): RED SHEPHERD has smart form *and at the beginning of December* was beaten only three-quarters of a length by Tonbad at Fairyhouse, with Wednesday's winner, Mare Millar, eight lengths away third. Unfortunately, this Red Regent filly has not raced since so her fitness must be taken on trust. Dochas is highly rated by *Michael Grassick but has* only won two small races at Limerick.

2.30 (2½m Ch): LUCISIS did well when hammering Boreen Prince and Buck House at Fairyhouse in December on good ground, but was unable to confirm the form over the same course in heavy going 13 days ago. Possibly he needs a better surface and conditions should suit him here.

3.0 (3½m Ch): MARCOLO won at Navan three weeks ago with Yer Man (second in two last year) a long way behind. On his seasonal reappearance he was fifth to Monanore at Navan but has a 10lb pull with that rival.

DONCASTER

1 45 Blackfeet
2 15 Succeeded (nb)
2 45 Hand Over
3 15 ROMAN MARINER (Nap)
3 45 Corked
4 15 Fighter Pilot

● 7.30 A.M. INSPECTION
TOTE DOUBLE: 2.45 & 3.45. TREBLE: 2.15, 3.15 & 4.15
* DENOTES BLINKERS
GOING: Firm

—ITV—

1 45—ILKLEY MOOR HANDICAP CHASE: 2m 150yds: £2,506 (6 runners).
1 31-2411 BLACKFEET (5lb ex) (A. McInelly) J. S. Wilson 6-11-13 ... S. Charlton
5 01-1F22 GOLDEN FANCY (Northumbria Leisure Ltd) I. Vickers 8-11-5 ... P. Tuck
7 0011F3 MARINA STAR (C. Sanderson) O. O'Neill 6-10-13 ... J. Suthern
8 00F/0-4 NORTON CAVALIER (Maj J. Linley) M. H. Easterby 10-10-8 ... A. Brown
9 22-2230 ABU TORKEY (J. Blundell) J. Blundell 8-10-8 ... D. Dutton
11 30-0020 EVEN MELODY (S. Green) N. Crump 16-10-2 ... C. Hawkins
1984: No corresponding race.
Betting forecast: 6-4 Blackfeet, 3 Abu Torkey, 9-2 Even Melody, 7 Golden Fancy, 8 Marina Star, 12 Norton Cavalier.
TOP FORM TIPS: Blackfeet 8, Even Melody 7.

—ITV—

2 15—GRIMTHORPE HANDICAP CHASE: 4m 100yds: £3,360 (6 runners).
9 U-PP4P0 SUNSET CRISTO (Miss C. Hawkey) R. Hawkey 11-11-7 ... C. Grant
16 1F0U14 SUCCEEDED (BF) (W. A. Stephenson) W. A. Stephenson 8-10-13 ... Mr P. J. Dun
17 003202 GREENBANK PARK * (R. Budge) R. Perkins 8-10-13 ... D. Williams
20 0UP1-44 GOOD TO SEE YOU (F. Barlow) J. Parkes 7-10-2 ... D. Wilkinson
21 212-032 ROCKIN BERRY (A. Baylis) Mrs M. Evans 10-10-0 ... Mr T. Jackson
22 1404P0 IMMIGRATE (W. Stevenson-Taylor) G. Richards 12-10-0 ... N. Doughty
1984: No corresponding race.
Betting forecast: 9-4 Succeeded, 11-4 Greenbank Park, 7-2 Good To See You, 9-2 Immigrate, 6 Rockin Berry, 12 Sunset Cristo.
TOP FORM TIPS: Greenbank Park 8, Succeeded 7.

—ITV—

2 45—LADBROKE NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE FINAL: 2m 150yds; £5,764 (10 runners)
1 131120 HAND OVER (Mrs M. Haggas) Mrs M. Dickinson 6-11-11 ... R. Earnshaw
3 2-12110 MUSIC BE MAGIC (N. Mason) G. Richards 6-11-6 ... N. Doughty
5 11F020 CHARCOAL WALLY (J. Mursell) R. Hodges 6-11-3 ... R. Linley
6 00-F310 TARGET MAN (M. Britton Seahouses Ltd) W. A. Stephenson 5-11-3 R. Lamb
7 3302F1 WINART (Mrs V. Taylor) R. Hodges 7-10-10 ... S. Earle (7)
8 C110 DOVER (BF) (J. Geraghty) M. H. Easterby 5-10-7 ... J. J. O'Neill
9 121004 WELSH OAK (G. Amey) D. Gandolfo 5-10-6 ... M. Harrington
10 0F30-22 SWOP SHOP (J. Sutcliffe) Miss Z. Green 6-10-2 ... A. Brown
13 U04000 OWEN HERBERT (M. O'Grady) C. Wardman 5-10-0 ... M. Pepper
14 03330-0 MOONLIGHTING (Mrs P. Boswell) P. Calver 5-10-0 ... C. Grant
1984: Run Over 6-10-8 R. Lamb 13-2 W. A. Stephenson, 13 ran.
Betting forecast: 5-2 Hand Over, 7-2 Dover, 4 Welsh Oak, 11-2 Music Be Magic, 8 Charcoal Wally, Winart, Swop Shop.
TOP FORM TIPS: Swop Shop 8, Hand Over 7, Music Be Magic 6.

—ITV—

3 15 — LIGHT INFANTRY PLATE HANDICAP HURDLE: 3m 122yds; £1,387 (8 runners).
2 1FF2-30 TRUST THE KING (N. Delamain) Mrs J. Barrow 8-11-10 ... Peter Hobbs
3 31-U33P BALLY-GO (C) (C. Bell) M. W. Easterby 8-11-7 ... P. Tuck
9 43)F1-1 ROMAN MARINER (4lb ex) (Mrs A. Norton) S. Norton 6-10-11 R. O'Leary
14 000032 CUT'N DRY (Miss M. Roulston) A. M. Robson 5-10-4 ... S. McNeill
19 0302-40 CORRIELEK (G. Fairbairn) G. Fairbairn 8-10-0 ... P. A. Charlton
20 11-12000 HELSHAW GRANGE (J. Blundell) J. Blundell 6-10-0 ... D. Dutton
23 000000- LADY ROMOHA (Mrs E. Adair) Mrs E. Adair 8-10-0 ... Mr P. Avery (7)
24 040000 DEMON KING (J. Thorpe) J. G. Thorpe 6-10-0 ... Julia Vergette (7)
1984: No corresponding race.
Betting forecast: 7-4 Roman Mariner, 11-4 Cut'n Dry, 9-2 Bally-Go, 11-2 Trust The King, 16 Corrielek, Helshaw Grange.
TOP FORM TIPS: Roman Mariner 9, Cut'n Dry 7, Bally-Go 6.

RICHARD BAERLEIN'S SELECTIONS
Nap — FIGHTER PILOT (Doncaster, 4.15)
Next Best — ROMAN MARINER (Doncaster, 3.15)

3 45—HAMBLETON HILLS HUNTERS' CHASE: Amateur Riders; 2½m; £1,052 (10 runners).
1 F11-4 CORKED (BF) (Mrs A. Villar) Mrs A. Villar 6-12-1 ... S. Sherwood
3 42/401- GOLDLINER ABBEY (C/D) (T. Edmonds) T. Edmonds 7-12-1 T. Brown (7)
9 030P1-0 COUNTERLONE (D) (J. Docker) J. Docker 11-11-12 ... J. Sharp (4)
10 041-1U GOLDEN TY (V. Hall) V. Hall 7-11-12 ... R. Orkney
13 BALLINAPARKA (A. Beaty) A. Beaty 11-11-7
14 20-P300 BENNILONG (Polymath Shopfitting Supp Ltd) J. Smith 9-11-7 M. Walls (7)
15 00P/F COLD SNAP (T. Easterby) M. H. Easterby 8-11-7 ... T. Easterby
17 0/P00P- McSWEENEY (A. Bareford) A. Bareford 8-11-7 ... S. Andrews (4)
19 04/323- WANG THE MILLER (Mrs W. Bissill) W. H. Bissill 10-11-7 H. Bissill (7)
21 MISS WITHERS (R. Taylor) R. S. Taylor 11-11-2
1984: Swift Wood 10-11-4 Mr W. Wales 3-1 D. Wales: 9 ran.
Betting forecast: Evens Corked, 7-4 Golden Ty, 8 Counterlone, 14 Goldliner Abbey, 16 Bennilong, Wang the Miller.
TOP FORM TIPS: Corked 8, Golden Ty 7.

4 15—FLAMBOROUGH HEAD NOVICES' HURDLE: 2¼m; £933 (17 runners)
9 200-312 FIGHTER PILOT (P. Gray) M. Pipe 5-11-10 ... P. Leach
12 D/04-14 MACEDONIAN (D) (BF) (Mrs T. Tate) T. Tate 7-11-10 ... Mr T. Tate
17 40 APPEAL COURT (W. Elsey) W. Elsey 5-11-3 ... A. Brown
26 P0 INDIAN (T. Bayley) J. Glover 5-11-3 ... Dale McKeown (7)
27 IVANHOE CHARLIE (P. Hewitt) P. Hewitt 5-11-3 ... D. Williams
28 002 KAMAL SIDDIQI (A. Cathcart) M. Lambert 5-11-3 ... P. A. Charlton
33 0 THORN PARK (Mrs J. Wilson) J. Blundell 5-11-3 ... D. Dutton
36 134 QUIET FALL (G. Turnbull) M. Camacho 4-10-13 ... R. O'Leary
37 013 SWINGIT GUNNER (A. Wilkinson) Denyse Smith 4-10-13 ... C. Grant
39 0 FALLOW TIME (E. Condell) D. Moorhead 5-10-12 ... D. Condell (7)
40 2 LUXURY (M. Walsh) E. Carr 6-10-12 ... S. Keightley
41 4 ROYAL RAINBOW (Mrs D. Bowlby) S. Avery 5-10-12
43 0044 SPARKLING JENNY (BF) (G. Farndon) R. Hollinshead 5-10-12 J. J. O'Neill
47 DIE IN THE SKY (Mrs A. Norton) S. Norton 4-10-6 ... M. Dwyer
53 P ARATI (Mrs E. Adair) Mrs E. Adair 4 10-1 ... Mr P. Avery (7)
54 BRIGG MELODY (J. Thorpe) J. Thorpe 4-10-1 ... P. Dever
55 040 DUBAVARNA (C. Wilmot-Smith) C. Gray 4-10-1 ... M. Pepper
1984: No corresponding race.
Betting forecast: 7-4 Fighter Pilot, 11-4 Luxury, 6 Quiet Fall, 10 Swingit Gunner, Macedonian, 12 Kamal Siddiqi, Sparkling Jenny.
TOP FORM TIPS: Fighter Pilot 10, Macedonian 7, Sparkling Jenny 6.

● Browne's Gazette is due to have a preparatory outing before next month's Champion Hurdle at Kelso on Tuesday. Among his possible opponents are Allten Glazed, Keelby Kavalier and *the outstanding northern novice Our Louise.*

PUNCHESTOWN

2 00 Red Shepherd
2 30 Lucisis
3 00 *Marcolo*
3 30 Herbert United
4 00 Gold For Ever
4 30 Arramear
5 00 Atlantic Angel

*—DENOTES BLINKERS
GOING: Good to soft
▼ DENOTES BLINKERS

—BBC-1—

2 0—JACK, PETER & PAUL DOYLE 4-Y-O HURDLE: 2m; £3,450 (13 runners).
1 211 DOCHAS M. Grassick 10-11 ... F. Berry
2 011 FORTY GRAND Patrick O'Leary 10-3 ... P. Hynes (3)
3 132 RED SHEPHERD P. Mullins 10-8 ... A. Mullins
4 201 PERATO A. Moore 10-5 ... P. J. Taaffe
5 013 TACHEO E. Malone 10-5 ... T. McGivern
6 040 ALL GREY * E. Harty 10-4 ... A. Powell
7 000 BLAKES SOVEREIGN A. Geraghty 10-4
8 042 DAVID'S PET L. Kavanagh 10-4 ... H. Rogers
9 224 MR PALIATOR J. Bryce-Smith 10-4 ... M. Cummins
10 000 SQUIRES GANNON P. Burke 10-4 ... R. O'Donovan
11 003 SWEET DOWNS M. Connolly 10-4 ... F. Rafferty (7)
12 040 HARRISTOWN RULE * A. Redmond 10-1
13 040 TASHINA J. Murphy 10-1
1984: See You Then 11-4 T. Carmody 9-4 fav (C. Collins).
Betting forecast: 7-4 Dochas, 4 Tacheo, Perato, 6 Red Shepherd, Forty Grand, 10 David's Pet, 12 Sweet Downs.

—BBC-1—

2 30—DINERS CLUB CHASE: 2½m; £4,540 (9 runners).
1 133 LUCISIS F. Flood 6-11-8 ... F. Berry
2 210 GERRY DOYLE T. Nicholson 7-11-4 ... Mr D. H. O'Connor (5)
3 40F GLENRUE T. Casey 8-11-4 ... M. J. Byrne
4 FUL MAN OF LEISURE Jos Murphy 7-11-4 ... T. Townend
5 132 PASS THE PLATE P. Mullins 7-11-4 Mr W. P. Mullins
6 413 REUBENS GLEN J. Cox 8-11-4 ... Mr J. Shortt (3)
7 241 RUN FOR GOLD M. J. O'Brien 6-11-4 J. P. Byrne
8 032 MICHELL LABIB A. Moore 8-11-0 ... T. J. Taaffe
9 404 MOTOR ON P. Mullins 7-11-0 ... A. Mullins
1984: Mister Donovan 8-11-3 T. J. Ryan 2-1 fav (O. O'Grady).
Betting forecast: 15-8 Lucisis, 11-4 Motor On, 5 Man Of Leisure, 7 Reubens Glen, 8 *Run For Gold, 10 Pass The Plate.*

—BBC-1—

3 0—LADBROKES NATIONAL TRIAL HANDICAP CHASE: 3½m; £6,500 (15 runners).
1 000 MACKS FRIENDLY P. Mullins 8-12-0 ... T. Carmody
2 01F PAPA'S BUSKINS O. Finnegan 9-11-8 ... N. Madden
3 081 MARCOLO M. Cunningham 6-11-7 ... K. Morgan
4 544 CRANLOME K. Woods 7-11-6 ... P. Gill
5 323 FAIR IS FAIR T. Costello 7-11-6 ... Mr T. S. Costello
6 02 MONANCHE W. Hamey 8-11-5 ... T. Morgan
7 1F4 THREE COUNTIES P. Moakley 6-11-2 ... M. J. Byrne
8 00C YER MAN * A. J. McNamara 10-10-12 P. Kiely
9 11F CERIMAU M. Neville 7-10-10 ... K. F. O'Brien
10 404 OUR CLOUD S. Shields 9-10-9 ... J. P. Byrne
11 F1F FOR JON E. McNamara 7-10-5 ... M. Martin
12 FF2 GRAIGUE LADY T. G. Walsh 11-10-2 ... A. J. O'Brien
13 101 HOWARTH HIGHWAY A. McLoughlin 9-10-2 R. O'Donovan
14 001 MERENDA R. McCarthy 8-10-2 ... A. Powell
15 312 *INSURE* P. Hughes 7-10-1 ... H. Rogers
1984: Drumlargan 10-12-0 Mr F. Codd 9-4 fav (O'Grady).
Betting forecast: 7-2 Monanore, 9-2 Marcolo, 6 Macks Friendly, 8 Cranlome, Cerimau, 10 Fair Is Fair, For Jon, 14 Insure.

3 30 — *FOURNOUGHTS HURDLE: 2½m; £2,760 (7 runners).*
1 333 ANOTHER SHOT P. McCreery 7-11-4 ... doubtful
2 0- FIVE NATIONS Miss G. O'Brien 8-11-4 T. Carmody
3 3C4 HERBERT UNITED D. McDonogh 6-11-4 ... H. Rogers
4 212 QUIET VENTURE F. Flood 7-11-4 ... F. Berry
5 432 SUB-EDITOR J. Murphy 6-11-4 ... doubtful
6 001 KALAMINSKY E. O'Grady 5-10-12 ... T. J. Ryan
7 101 STONEY CREEK D. Hughes 5-10-12 ... T. Morgan
8 024 LOVELY PRINCE P. Mullins 8-10-11 ... A. Mullins
9 021 REPENT A. Redmond 5-10-8 ... A. Powell
1984 Straight Air 6-11-9 Mr C. P. Magnier 9-4 it fav (Cunningham)
Betting forecast: 7-4 Five Nations, 4 Stoney Creek, Quiet Venture, 5 Kalaminsky, 7 Herbert United, 12 Repent.

4 0—LONG-STONE HANDICAP HURDLE: 2m; £1,035 (17 runners).
1 200 LEGATE P. Hughes 8-11-0 ... H. Rogers
2 101 CATHERINE BRIDGE A. Leahy 5-10-13 ... T. Carmody
3 103 PROUD BISHOP A. Moore 6-10-13 ... T. J. Taaffe
4 000 DEEP SOUTH F. Flood 6-10-11 ... F. Berry
5 PPO THIONVILLE B. Malone 5-10-11 ... T. McGivern
6 330 RAVEN RIVER P. Mullins 8-10-10 ... A. Mullins
7 312 SEVEN'S SPECS P. McCartan 5-10-8
8 030 AMBIAN HILL M. O'Toole 6-10-7 ... N. Madden
9 12R CORBALLY BESS M. Ryan 5-10-6 ... Mr A. Ryan (7)
10 F00 BROWN FORD F. Flood 6-10-5 ... C. O'Dwyer (7)
11 00P SEANDONNAGH A. Redmond 5-10-5 ... A. Powell
12 301 CATHY'S PAL D. T. Hughes 5-10-1 ... T. Morgan
13 012 CELTIC HONEY M. Cunningham 5-10-1 ... K. Morgan
14 023 GOLD FOR EVER F. O'Brien 6-10-1 ... A. J. O'Brien
15 100 LEINSTER ARMS P. Burke 5-10-1 ... J. P. Byrne
16 020 CLAREMORE BOY J. Cox 6-10-0 bl ... G. McGivern (7)
17 F00 JAKE BARNES P. Mullins 10-10-0 ... P. Kavanagh
LAST YEAR: No corresponding race.
Betting forecast: 3 Proud Bishop, 4 Catherine Bridge, 11-2 Cathy's Pal, 6 Corbally Bess, 8 Raven River, Celtic Honey, 10 Gold For Ever, 12 Ambian Hill.

4 30—CLONGOWES WOOD HANDICAP CHASE: 2m; £1,380 (8 runners).
1 0 PILLAR BRAE D. Weld 12-12-0 ... T. McGivern
2 F43 RAMAKIED P. McCreery 8-11-3 ... M. M. Lynch
3 PP3 KING'S SERVANT P. Woods 11-11-1 ... E. Woods
4 242 ARRAMEAR T. Costello 8-10-1 ... M. J. Byrne
5 110 MISS CURRAGHMORE M. Butler 11-9-10 bl C. O'Dwyer
6 302 GRANGECON EXPRESS V. Bowens 8-9-8 K. F. O'Brien
7 404 PAINSTOWN BOY P. McCreery 10-9-7 ... P. Gill
8 F02 THE BAR RULES M. Cunningham 8-9-7 ... J. P. Byrne
1984: Travelowen 7-10-1 Mr T. S. Costello 5-1 fav (Costello).
Betting forecast: 5-2 Arramear, 4 Ramakied, 5 The Bar Rules, 7 Grangecon Express, 8 King's Servant, 10 Miss Curraghmore, 12 Painstown Boy, 16 Pillar Brae.

5 0—HORSE HILL 4-Y-O AMATEUR FLAT RACE: 2m; £666 (21 runners).
1 1 THE ILLIAD J. Scott 11-10 ... L. Wyer (7)
2 2 ATLANTIC ANGEL M. Cunningham 11-0 A. J. Martin (3)
3 0 BARON BAVARD J. Harty 11-0 ... G. Stack (7)
4 340 CADDY A. Kennedy 11-0 ... S. Kennedy (7)
5 CEOLNA MARA J. Cox 11-0 ... J. Shortt (3)
6 EDMONDS POINT D. McDonogh 11-0 ... Mrs H. McDonogh (7)
7 GREEN BACHELOR M. Halford 11-0 ... M. Halford
8 KISSANE P. Mullins 11-0 ... W. T. Mullins
9 0 KNUCKLE DOWN M. Morris 11-0 ... F. Codd
10 03 MANDAVI H. de Bromhead 11-0 ... D. M. O'Brien (5)
11 RENEGADE J. Geoghegan 11-0 ... J. P. Geoghegan (7)
12 0 SCENTED ROSEBUD M. Quaid 11-0 ... M. J. Quaid (7)
13 SHAKIMA M. Morris 11-0 ... R. White (7)
14 CO THE HON M. Morris 11-0 ... J. Queally
15 TUBBERBUNNY P. Mooney 11-0
16 MISS LAIDIR M. O'Toole 10-11 ... C. P. O'Toole (3)
17 00 MISS NERO Patrick O'Leary 10-11 ... B. A. Bunyan (7)
18 0 MOORTOWN EXPRESS V. Bowens 10-11 ... J. Sleator
19 0 NICKY'S DILEMMA J. G. Murphy 10-11 ... J. Hayes (7)
20 0 RARE LADY C. Ross 10-11
21 TAVAITE V. Kennedy 10-11 ... D. Cashburn (3)
1984: Polar Bear 11-5 Mr J. Lombard 6-4 (Mr C. P. O'Toole).
Betting forecast: 11-8 The Illiad, 100-30 Atlantic Angel, 6 Miss Nero, 8 Mandavi, The Hon, 10 Caddy, Kissane, 12 Baron Bavard.

BRIDGE

Rixi Markus

AFTER watching hundreds of boards in the Seventh World Team Olympiad in Seattle, I came to think that the most balanced team in the open series was Austria. Their six players were all young and keen, and only one of them lacked top class experience.

Austria were unlucky not to qualify for the final. They had two strong *pairs* in Berger-Meinl and Fucik-Terranco, but Berger collapsed during the crucial semi-final against Poland, and *had to be taken to* hospital; Kubak and Milavec had to take over, but the Austrians held on to a slender lead until the *final board* arrived. This was it:

Dealer North: game all.

NORTH
♠ K Q J 9 3
♥ J 9 4 2
♦ A Q 3
♣ 3

WEST
♠ 8 6 4
♥ 8 6 5
♦ 9 8 7 5 2
♣ 5 2

EAST
♠ A 7 5 2
♥ A K
♦ J 6 4
♣ A 9 7 4

SOUTH
♠ 10
♥ Q 10 7 3
♦ K 10
♣ K Q J 10 8 6

Edgar Kaplan, the Vu-Graph commentator, announced to the excited audience that there could not be a swing on the final board. 3NT was unbeatable on the North-South cards, but both *teams had finished in 4H* doubled, in which there were four certain losers and no more.

Reporters rushed to the telephones and telex machines to tell the world that the final would be between Austria and France. Seconds later, the news came through that the Austrian South player had found a way of going two down in 4H doubled, *giving Poland a swing of 7* i.m.p. and allowing them to slip into the final by 147-143 i.m.p. after they had been 37 i.m.p. behind with 16 boards to play.

The Austrian tragedy happened like this. West led a club against 4H doubled, and East went in with the ace and switched to the ace and another spade. Declarer made the strange play of ruffing in the closed hand and leading the ten of hearts to East's king. East fired back a third spade and declarer, who was convinced that West was short in the suit, erred again by ruffing with the queen of hearts. This time it was fatal, for East won the next round of trumps with the ace *and returned his last spade*, promoting a trump trick for the eight of hearts now that West at long last really was out of *spades.*

To give some idea of how much Berger was missed during the crucial stages of the semi-final, here *is a hand which he played* in the third quarter of the match.

Dealer East: game all.

NORTH
♠ 9 7 5 4
♥ 8
♦ K Q 7
♣ A K 9 5 4

WEST
♠ K 10
♥ A Q 9 5 4
♦ 9 3 2
♣ *J 8 6*

EAST
♠ Q J 8 6 3 2
♥ 7
♦ 4
♣ *Q 10 7 3 2*

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ K J 10 6 3 2
♦ A J 10 8 6 5
♣ —

SOUTH Berger	WEST	NORTH Meinl	EAST
			2S(1)
3S(2)	NB	4NT(3)	NB
6D	NB	NB	NB

(1) A Weak Two bid.
(2) Showing a strong two-suited hand.
(3) Inviting partner to play in game in whichever *minor* suit he held.

Berger won the spade lead with the ace and immediately led the two of hearts. *It did not* occur to West that declarer would be underleading three honours, and he therefore played low, allowing dummy's eight to win the trick. Berger continued by discarding two *hearts on the top clubs and* ruffing a club back to his hand. The king of hearts was covered with the ace and ruffed with the queen of diamonds. *He* ruffed another club with the ten of diamonds and another heart with the king. He came back to hand by ruffing a spade with the jack of diamonds and then ruffed his last heart with dummy's seven. Berger had to to lose a trick to the nine of diamonds because of the high cross-ruff, but that was the only *trick which he lost.*

In the other room, the Polish North-South pair were in 5D, making exactly eleven tricks. Tuszynski tried the same two of hearts at the second trick, but Fucik rose with the nine and switched to a trump to end these fun and games.

© *Rixi Markus*

Sandy Sutherland on the Scottish Cup final

Murray's avengers in shape

BASKETBALL

En route to proving that they are the best in Britain by winning the Anglo-Scottish Cup at Leicester a week tomorrow, Murray International Metals have a little domestic matter to settle, the National *Girobank Scottish Cup final* at the Coasters Arena, Falkirk, tomorrow.

The Edinburgh club's run of five Cup victories was disturbed in last year's final when Falkirk took advantage of surprise, a home court and a record 4,500 crowd to beat the champions. MIM intend to rectify that aberration tomorrow and few would bet against *them in current circumstances.*

The build-up to the final by the two teams could scarcely have been a greater contrast. MIM's form has been steadily improving, culminating in their impressive Anglo-Scottish Cup *win in front of the television* cameras at Hemel Hempstead last Sunday, and Alton Byrd and Ralton Way, two of their key players, have both signed three-year contracts.

Way's announcement yesterday *could be seen as a direct* reply to those who wanted him to come South and play for England. Now the Ruislip-born, American-trained 6ft 8in forward looks certain to exercise his Scottish residency option.

Falkirk, though, have been *fraught with financial trauma* in the last fortnight. Only an 11th-hour additional £7,000 from sponsors P & D Windows has rescued the team for the decisive fixtures of cup and league. But the future of the likes of Bobby Kinzer, who has been three years with Falkirk, and coach Kevin Cadle is uncertain. That is no way to approach a *cup final, even when* you are the holders.

Apart from Kinzer, Falkirk *have another outstanding* American, Derick Pope, a 6ft 4in forward with an exceptional leap. It will need all the inspiration of this Pope if the Metals are to be strained, let alone buckled.

DIARY

THE Department of Energy was yesterday presented with the first exciting results of its domestic energy efficiency scheme launched in October with 50 per cent DE funding and the enthusiastic backing of Mr Peter Walker.

The Heat (Home Energy Advice and Treatment) scheme was piloted in three towns — Leicester, Coventry, and Northampton. Leaflets were sent out giving advice on insulation and offering a £40 "energy audit" on their homes. The offer was followed up with a voucher system for work to be done.

After £50,000 worth of advertising and 110,000 leaflets, one person has so far taken up Heat's advice and put in insulation — £25 worth.

RED KEN will, he hopes, face his difficult selection meeting for the Brent East nomination tanned and refreshed. He plans to return from holiday in Cuba just before the meeting at the end of April. He further hopes to meet one or two "important people," while out there, though really it's just a holiday.

AREN'T you just glad you don't work for TV-am? Regard the problems of Mr Mike Hollingsworth, Director of Programmes there, who featured luridly last weekend in a News of the World story "exposing" his alleged close relationship with presenter Anne "Miss Ordinary") Diamond.

Before this, Mr H had had a dust-up with the technicians' union, ACTT, after securing the scoop of paying for Bob Geldorf's trip to Ethiopia. ACTT demanded special staffing levels ("Ethiopia a war zone") and so TV-am had to resort to a variety of ploys to get a meagre amount of footage back in return for Mr Geldorf's expenses.

In the wake of the dust-up, Fleet Street newspapers started receiving anonymous letters alleging a relationship with Miss Ordinary and saying he'd been sacked. The subsequent visits from a number of newspapers coincided with a month's compassionate leave to look after his wife, who is getting over an operation. Both he and Miss Ordinary deny a relationship: ACTT denies speaking to the News of the World.

Wouldn't you rather — as Sir John Junor might put it — be a pianist in a Lebanese brothel?

AS ALWAYS the long-suffering Poles have come up with a bitter joke to assuage their feelings. According to emigré sources the latest are inevitably about the murder of Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko. A priest is walking along the road when a police car stops and the cop says, "Do you want a ride?" "No thanks," the priest answers, "I can't swim."

MONEY still continues to flood in as a result of the second miners' families appeal advertised in both the Guardian and the Times — so much so that the organisers are planning to advertise again next week. The second appeal has so far raised a further £100,000 — £3,500 from Times readers and the rest from the Guardian. But Times readers needn't be down-hearted — they more than made up for it with the volume of hate mail they also sent in.

CONGRATULATIONS to Arthur Scargill, voted "Most Wonderful Human Being" in an NME readers' poll this week. Alas, he also comes third in another category: "Creep of the Year."

AN OWN-GOAL by political activists at Queen's University, Belfast, this week in the run-up to their one-day strike against education cuts. The day before the strike they voted heavily — at a thinly-attended students' union meeting — to re-name the 700-seat McMordie Hall, the Nelson Mandela Hall (the orginal proposal, Arthur Scargill Hall, was withdrawn). The next day, strike organisers were out using public address systems to advertise a short-notice strike rally in the Nelson Mandela Hall. Almost no-one turned up since almost no-one had heard of the place.

HMSO list of EEC publications: "198: The Miracle of the CAP. (Incorrect title on cover: The miracle of the PAC)."

DINERS CLUB has old mailing lists, very old, actually. A colleague has just received an invitation to join sent to an address which was 10 years old. But the company is, at least engagingly frank about where it gets its lists from — a job lot (presumably cut-price) from Time Life.

Alan Rusbridger



Everyone queues for everything in Shanghai: in the holiday season you can wait ten hours for a hair-do

Private squalor and public lives

MICHAEL WEISSKOPF reports from Shanghai, powerhouse of China

IT IS 6.30 am, rush hour. A dozen people are knocked down, trampled and overtaken in the scramble for the Huangpu river ferry. Already dangerously overloaded, the craft creaks away from the dock, leaving hundreds of grumbling commuters with no choice but to get back in line. When they finally reach the other side, they wait again, this time for a bus. They hurl themselves into a standing-room-only crowd while the vehicle pulls away, the door slamming repeatedly on dangling arms and legs.

Another day has begun in the most crowded city in the world's most populated country.

This is Shanghai, muscular, proud Shanghai, which led the rest of Asia into the modern age of skyscrapers and electricity. Its population, long China's most talented and diverse, grew to 12 million last year, making it the world's second-largest metropolis after Mexico City.

But Shanghai's great human resource has become its curse. Too many people fight for too few goods in too little space, creating a nasty blend of pollution, poverty, overcrowding, shortages, and corruption.

Within the next decade, Shanghai is expected to swell to 13.5 million people, adding to an already bloated megalopolis where one of every eight inner city residents is homeless, where consumers queue for three days to buy a colour television, and where visitors in want of hotel rooms have to sleep in such odd places as barbers' chairs.

It was not always like this in Shanghai. When the Red Army marched in in May 1949, it acquired a major international port of six million people divided into pockets of great wealth and poverty. There was the Shanghai of Chinese capitalists and Western financiers, a place known for adventure, entrepreneurial flair, and civility. This was the "Paris of the East," Asia's most prosperous city, a world of stately mansions, grand boulevards, chic cafes run by White Russian emigres nightclubs with names like Casanova, dog races, and posh country clubs.

Then there was the Shanghai of the wretched — naked peasant children, diseased beggars and half-starving coolies who lived in shanties and scraped for a daily bowl of rice.

Shanghai was, above all, a city bristling with commercial energy, an entrepot of opportunity where perfumed prostitutes in Suzie Wong dresses jostled British bankers and the streets rang with a cacophony of singing peddlers, heaving rickshaw boys, drunken sailors, and clacking mah-jong tiles.

Thirty-five years and a doubling in population later, Shanghai's energy is drained by the daily struggle for breathing space, goods and peace of mind. No-one starves, and no-one flourishes. But the "city of blazing lights," as it was once called, has dimmed into a monochrome battlefield where almost everyone fights for a basic level of subsistence. Apart from the incessant din of bicycle bells, the streets are mostly silent.

Shanghai, despite its burdens, is still a jewel to many outsiders. Chinese travel hundreds of miles for the smart shops on Nanking Road, or for a look at the old financial district along the Huangpu river, China's only real skyline.

But an insider's view of Shanghai, focused by official reports and interviews with residents and authorities, is of a city barely able to support its millions. The average Shanghainese lives without toilet or bathing facilities in a room about the size of a double bed. He fights with three others for every available place on the bus. He enjoys a patch of green space the size of a standard newspaper opened at the fold. He nestles with his wife in park bushes on summer nights for lack of privacy at home, bringing along his marriage licence to show inquiring police. He breathes air that is polluted 10 times worse than American standards allow, contributing to an incidence of lung cancer in males that is three times higher than in New York City.

He drinks water that is mainly chlorinated sewage and eats vegetables laced with industrial toxins, factors contributing to male stomach-cancer rates six times higher than in New York. He queues for nearly everything. There is one optician for every million people, one tailor for every 90,000 people, one home telephone for every 2,400 people, and one public toilet for every 60,000 people on a busy ady in the commercial district.

Shanghai's afflictions can be blamed on bad planning and radical politics. City officials, for example, froze all housing construction from 1967 to 1972 during the Cultural Revolution. But one problem underlies and intensifies all the others: overpopulation.

Most of the damage was done in the 1950s as China stabilised from decades of civil war and foreign occupation. The new authorities battled against disease, drastically cutting death rates, and, in the flush of victory, Chairman Mao advocated big families in the belief that more people meant more productive labour. "Every stomach comes with two hands attached," he said.

Shanghai's population exploded in record growth rates, averaging 3.7 per cent annually, quadruple today's levels. Between 1950 and 1958, the city grew almost by half, adding 2.4 million people. More than a million peasants flocked to Shanghai during the 1950s in search of work. Although Shanghai closed its borders to internal migration 25 years ago, and began cutting its growth rate earlier than the rest of China, the city is still paying for its runaway growth of the 1950s.

Shanghai is packed as tightly as a matchbox. Up to 425,000 people squeeze into a square mile of Shanghai's inner city. While total housing more than doubled since 1949, construction has hardly kept pace with population growth. In 35 years, living space per person increased only slightly to today's average cubbyhole of 2.4 yards by 2.4 yards, according to Sun Laiyun of Shanghai's housing management bureau.

Some residential quarters share space with polluting factories or stinking mountains of industrial waste piled four storeys high. Raw sewage leaks into the streets of Shanghai's older sections, overflowing septic tanks and pre-1949 sewer pipes that are grossly inadequate for the city's burgeoning domestic waste, now 8,000 tons per day. Most homes have little space for anything but beds, with three generations often sleeping in a single room.

What housing there is in Shanghai lacks the basic amenities taken for granted in other major cities of the world. Housewives walk a block or more to draw water from public standpipes, lugging heavy buckets, or balancing them on bamboo poles. They cook on primitive coal stoves in communal kitchens or outdoor corridors clouded in coal dust.

Most Shanghainese bathe in little pans of heated water at home or go to crowded public bathhouses, where scores of people wade in large, collective tubs. Without home toilets, they use wooden chamber pots kept under beds.

There is no word for "privacy" in Chinese, and any Shanghai neighbourhood shows why. The housing crisis packs the community so tightly that people have difficulty separating their lives. It cuts through all levels of society, pitting neighbour against neighbour in quarrels over communal space, and forcing students into the street to do their homework under dim lights.

Queueing is part of life in Shanghai. Housewives go to state markets at 5 am, placing a basket in several queues to mark their place as they hop from vegetables to fruit, to cooking oil. A haircut at one of the city's better barbers can take 10 hours of waiting in the holiday season.

In this kingdom of scarcity, he who dispenses objects of value is king, and corruption is the norm. It is institutionalised in a government bureaucracy in which housing officials take bribes for apartments, officials demand favours for gas connections, and state factory bosses trade their best bicycles or televisions for something they want for themselves or their families. Some multi-storey apartment blocks have remained unoccupied for months because electricians refused to wire them until they were assured of apartments.

China's central government believes the best way to eliminate the pressure is to eliminate shortages. To that end, it has increased the supply of consumer goods and services, built new housing openend more schools, and added mass transit facilities. But Peking believes a more lasting and efficient cure for shortages is to cut demand — a goal of population control.

Western economists believe Shanghai has a 10 per cent unemployment rate despite heroic government efforts to find work for 1.4 million new job-seekers since 1979. Finding jobs for 278,000 people a year has led, moreover, to tremendous featherbedding and declining rates of productivity. Despite this labour surplus, 15 per cent of Shanghai's industrial capacity is idle because of power shortages, and new factories have to wait up to two years for electrical connections.

Shanghai, building on its pre-Communist base, is still the industrial powerhouse of China, churning out one-sixth of the country's exports and one-ninth of its total industrial value in 1983. Its labour force of five million is the nation's largest, best paid and most skilled.

This industrial prowess, however, carries a heavy environmental penalty. As a centre for huge oil refineries and chemical and metallurgical plants, it also is home of the "Yellow Dragons," local slang for the sulphurous clouds that pour out of the factory chimneys.

Blanketed by a grey, acrid haze, the city wheezes from the tons of soot released every day by coal-burning stoves. Almost 60 per cent of the population cook with coal. The Huangpu river, Shanghai's source of drinking water, is a vast, open sewer, contaminated by daily discharges of almost 4 million tons of untreated industrial and domestic waste, including unacceptable levels of mercury and phenol. The river is a fetid, brownish pool, whose main tributory, Suzhou Creek, is anaerobic.

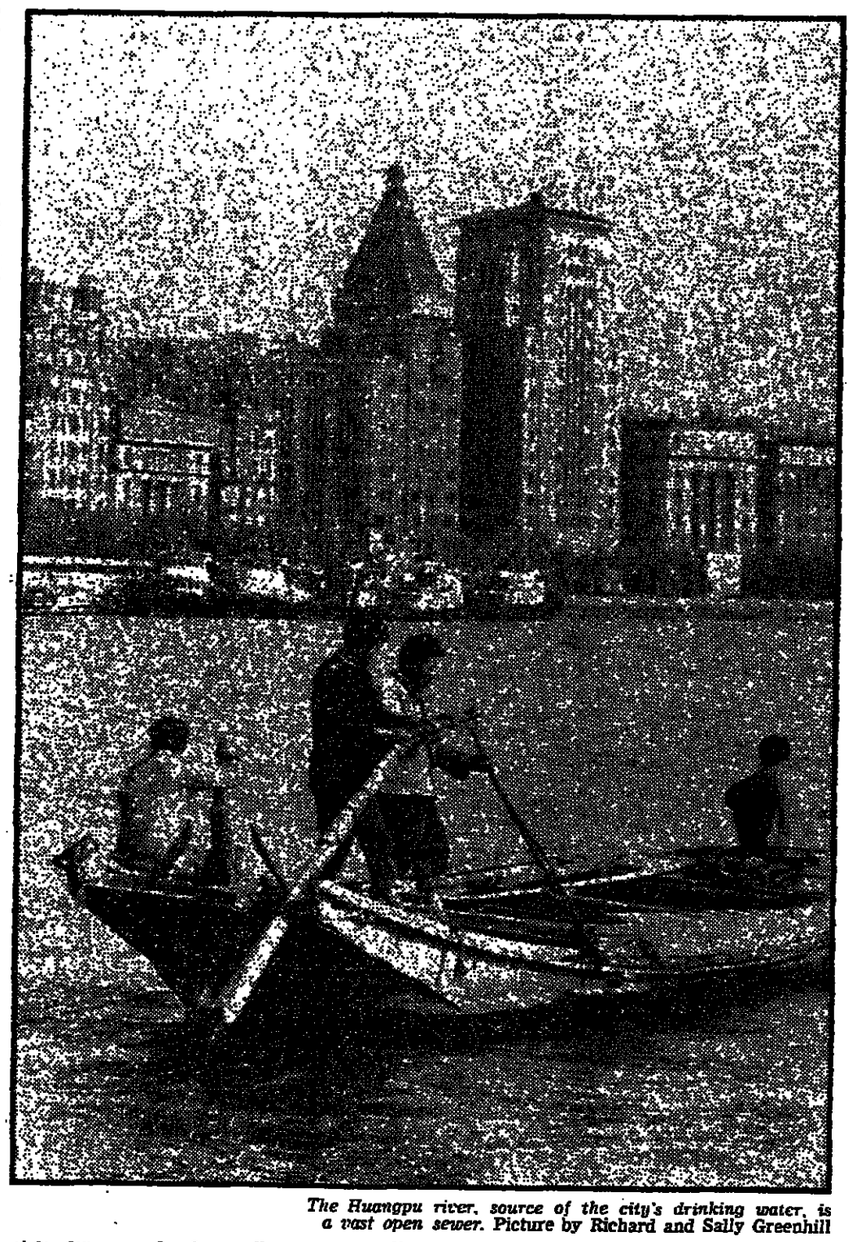
The calamity of Shanghai distorts the national picture only slightly. China, like its most cosmopolitan city, approximately doubled its population during the past 35 years under Communist rule, stretching thinly-developed resources even thinner. There are about 1,033,000,000 Chinese today, 22 per cent of mankind squeezing into habitable space equal to half of that available in the United States and feeding themselves on just 7 per cent of the earth's arable land.

As it desperately pursues modernisation, the world's only demographic billionaire has embarked on a course of family planning of unprecedented scope for a developing nation. Since 1979, the government has enforced a policy limiting most Chinese couples to a single child, a programme designed to cap the population at 1.2 billion by the year 2000, and to whittle it down further in the next century.

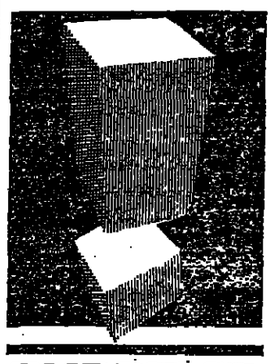
Slashing through China's traditional, family-oriented society, the policy has aroused strong public resistance, especially in rural areas, where peasants counter one-child controls with subterfuge, occasional violence, and female infanticide.

"Excessive population growth will not only adversely affect the increase of per capita income but also cause serious difficulties in food supply, housing, education and employment, and it may even disrupt social stability," General Secretary Hu Yaobang said at a meeting of the Communist Party in September 1982. "We must never slacken our effort in family planning."

Shanghai is a grim reminder of the alternative. — Washington Post.



The Huangpu river, source of the city's drinking water, is a vast open sewer. Picture by Richard and Sally Greenhill



ENDPIECE

Roy Hattersley

LAST TUESDAY I shook him by the hand, the greatest outside right who ever played football. And, as is my habit when I am ushered into the presence of a sporting hero, I made an absolute ass of myself. On the red shale Spion Kop where, 40 years ago, I used to stand to see Wednesday play, I would have been described as "gob-smacked." It is a condition induced by a fault in the cable which joins brain to tongue and usually brought on by awe. It does not render the victim speechless, but simple incapable of sensible speech. The disease is progressive. After the first idiocy the patient deteriorates. Every attempt to recover intensifies the attack.

My first symptom was confusion about the name. "It is" I said "a great privilege to meet you, Mr Matthews," forgetting the photographs taken outside Buckingham Palace of "football's first knight" wearing his top hat at a rakish angle and holding the insignia of his honour as proudly as he would have displayed a Cup winner's medal. But I could remember the photograph which used to be pinned to the youth club wall — Stoke City stripes and baggy shorts, leaning at almost 45 degrees to body swerve around the fullback, eyes in mid-movement between the ball at his feet and the centre-forward waiting in the goalmouth.

And I caled him Mr Matthews. But only during our first greeting. After that, I called him "Sir Stanley" obsessively. Each of my sentences began and ended with an acknowledgment of his accolade. His knighthood split my infinitives and separated my adjectives from their nouns. No drill sergeant ever peppered his conversation with so repetitious a single phrase. After 10 minutes of unremiting reference to his chivalrous state he urged me to abandon formality and call him "Stanley." Of course that did nothing to calm my nerves. I just took refuge in banal questions about the best full-back he ever played against and the place in which he keeps his famously belated Cup winner's medal. For the record, the answers were "Hughes of Chelsea and Wales" and "don't know."

At this point in the conversation my state of mind was further disturbed by constant exposure to the great man's genuine humility. I once owned a book of Edwardian cricket portraits which captioned every sepia photograph with a one line assessment of the personality which it depicted. Under the likeness of the young jack Hobbs it said "the modesty of true greatness." And as Sir Stanley told his self deprecating stories, that seemed the only possible caption for his conversation. We were told about the day when he lost his boots and had to stuff cottonwool inside somebody else's size tens, the long serving football manager whose only recorded instruction to his team had been to bath quickly after the match and catch the 5.10 train home, and the Italian rumour that during the Milan International of 1948 he had stopped in mid dribble, put his foot on the ball and begun to comb his hair.

By the time that he had moved on to examine the relative genius of Neil Franklin and John Charles, a my attempts at lucidity were additionally hindered by a further disturbing revelation. It is difficult to explain to anyone who has not confronted him in the flesh how like Stanley Matthews Sir Stanley Matthews looks. Whenever I see great national monuments for the first time I am always struck by the similarity to the pictures of them with which we were all brought up. As with the Eiffel Tower the Coliseum and the Parthenon. Sir Stanley looks disconcertingly like the image which has passed into folk lore. Seeing the reality is like watching a legend jump out of a picture frame. No wonder I was destabilised.

At 70, Sir Stanley is quintissentially Matthews. It was as if 50 years of football were all compressed into his bold worsted suit. I knew that there were bandy legs behind the sharp trouser creases and the hair (though now steel grey) was still swirled into the complicated sweeps which all come together at the back of a coiffeur which was never disturbed by heading a football.

And the knobby working-class face has hardly changed. These days, footballers can be mistaken for quantity surveyors or up and coming dentists. In Stanley Matthews's heyday, they looked like footballers. His distinctive features came to typify the whole race. Talking to him was like having a conversation with a whole epoch of social history.

My critics will argue that I am simply allergic to heroes, and that I break out into a metaphorical rash whenever I come into direct contact with one. But if I do suffer from that disease, I am infected by a narrowly defined virus. I have had relatively lucid conversations with Henry Kissinger on the subject of Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions. I moved my head at exactly the right moment when the then Governor Ronald Reagan told me that most unemployment was voluntary. And there was a time when I talked quite frequently to Viscount Tonypandy who, as readers of his autobiography will recall, was once the most wonderful man in the world. It is sporting heroes who leave me gob-smacked.

Perhaps part of my emotions ceased to develop and grow at some time during my twelfth or thirteenth year, and in my mind I am still standing on tiptoe in the shale of Spion Kop watching Stanley Matthews dribble down the wing. Or I may have learnt to distinguish between real heroes and counterfeit copies. Whatever the explanation, retaining the old emotions allows me to enjoy the old pleasures. Say I'm weary, say I'm sad, say that Joe Ashton is columnist of the Year. But add that last Tuesday I met Stanley Matthews.

Does breaking up the industry afford the best future for British shipbuilding?



SATURDAY NOTEBOOK

THE CURRENT year is designed to prove the most decisive in the history of Britain's oldest industries, shipbuilding, at least since the state corporation, British Shipbuilders, was created.

Not only will the future of the warship yards be determined, with the privatisation of the seven-strong complement of BS naval building companies, but the structure of the corporation's merchant shipbuilding activities will also assume a more positive shape.

Already this year, a number of events have materialised which offer some guidance to the prospects for the shipbuilding industry.

Last month, the direct intervention of the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, saved Birkenhead's Cammell Laird from closure but in the process jeopardised the survival chances of a mainstream warship yard, Vosper Thorneycroft.

Competitiveness has been the central dogma steering Government policy over the UK's struggling shipbuilding yards, with both Treasury and Trade and Industry ministers, as well as the BS chairman, Mr Graham Day, insisting that orders whether domestic or export, will be won on pricing alone. This means not only competitive tendering, but improvements in productivity.

On the warship front, this practice has now largely been put into place with MoD contracts awarded to the yard able to offer the best price. One of the by-products of this has been that a number of major naval orders, for both repairs and for replacement vessels, have gone not to BS yards but to small private yards, including former BS subsidiaries, amongst which the greatest beneficiary has been Tyne Shiprepair.

Yet Mr Heseltine's stance over Cammell Laird, welcome as it must be, suggests that the Government is not ready to be completely consistent in its adopted policy. The DTI, sponsoring ministry for shipbuilding, demanded, in vain, that the contract for the Type 22 frigate awarded to Cammell Laird should go to the cheapest bidder, and it seems certain that it could have been built for about £7 million less at Swan Hunter and probably at Vosper Thorneycroft as well.

The Heseltine decision won Cabinet support over the DTI arguments not because of any special sympathy for the Defence Secretary's former role in campaigning for new investment in Merseyside, but because ministers in general felt that workers who had crossed picket lines should be rewarded.

The bulk of Cammell's workforce last year defied the strike action which brought the yard to a standstill for 14 weeks, and in the interim, agreed to new flexible working practices well in advance of those in operation at most other yards.

This was the real reason why the MoD order was gained and why other yards, which fulfilled the government's procurement criteria more exactly, lost out and could, in the case of Vosper Thorneycroft, now face closure in place of Cammell Laird.

One conclusion which could be drawn from the Cabinet attitude is that the government is prepared to pay a price for weakening union powers. Part of the price could be closures or redundancies elsewhere. After all, when the warship yards were being put on the market, a senior industry minister indicated his belief that there was a minimum of one warship yard too many.

Elsewhere, there are signs that pressure is mounting to break up union control over a single British shipbuilding industry. Recently, workers at the Austin and Pickersgill merchant yard voted in defiance of the advice of the single body which negotiates on behalf of the industry, the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, to accept new working practices and a virtual two year pay freeze in order to win a £28 million overseas contract.

Few would quarrel with the A & P workforce attitude for the threat of the yard's immediate closure was suspended over its head. But again, every indication appears to be that a central ingredient of government's drive toward competitiveness is that shipbuilding in the UK should consist of a handful of isolated yards, battling with each other for work, and with no common cause as a single united industry.

The privatisation of the warship yards fits into this strategy. Instead of one warship building industry, there will be up to seven separate warship yards, in addition to the handful of small private yards which have already drifted into the private sector.

As it happens, the government may find itself facing a more concentrated industry than it had hoped. With the bidders list for the first of the plum yards, Yarrow, having already closed, the most prominent names which appear to be heading the roll are two of the private sector's dominant companies, GEC and Trafalgar House.

Trafalgar has already moved into shipbuilding, buying Scott Lithgow from BS and the RGC oil rig yard from British Steel, both last year, while GEC is a leading defence equipment contractor, and its electronic systems will form a major component in many, if not all, new naval vessel orders.

Both could be among the leading contenders for the second jewel among the warship yards, the Vickers yard at Barrow-in-Furness, which will be the monopoly builder for the Trident nuclear submarine programme.

When the warship yards went up for auction, many government hopes were pinned to the possibility of management buy-outs at the yards, but the chances of this is fading. A management consortium bid for Yarrow failed to gain worker support and perished and the same fate could lie in store for a similar consortium bid being created at Swan Hunter.

Indeed, so strongly did the Government favour management buy-outs that one idea which gathered support was that compensation should be offered to shipbuilding workers, in exchange for the scrapping of the redundancy payments scheme next year, in the form of shareholdings, or interest free loans for shareholdings, in the company for which they work.

One of the potential dangers of allowing the more valuable and advanced of the warship yards to fall into the hands of powerful conglomerates is that the smaller yards, particularly those which achieve some sort of independent life, may find themselves gradually squeezed out of existence by the financial muscle of the large private sector groups.

One cannot question that the British shipbuilding industry had become grossly overmanned and uncompetitive in an era of substantial international over-capacity.

And there are encouraging signs that some elements of competitiveness are being regained. Last week, the Clydeside yard of Govan, possibly the yard with the most modern facilities and advanced working practices under the BS umbrella, won a £40 million order from shipping group, P & O, the largest contract it had obtained since it built the QE2 over 15 years ago and the largest merchant order placed in the UK since the heavily subsidised replacement for the Atlantic Conveyor.

Simultaneously, one must applaud the efforts being made by the DTI in Brussels to allow it to increase its intervention support for shipping orders, to give the BS merchant yards in the main a breathing space while facilities and working practices are improved.

But it is difficult to avoid some fears that privatisation and the erosion of unions' powers are the ideals which dominate government strategy, and that these, rather than the evolution of a genuinely competitive and successful UK shipbuilding industry, are the current priorities.

And it is just a little difficult not to believe that the UK's merchant yards, having been sufficiently trimmed down to turn them into sellable commodities, will not follow the warship yards into the private sector if the Conservatives remain in power.

David Simpson

Woolworth also exploring launch of a national plastic plan

M & S credit cards runaway success

By Margareta Pagano, City Correspondent

Marks and Spencer yesterday reported a runaway success in the first few days of launching its credit card scheme with over 40,000 applications formally received and over one million customers picking up application forms from its stores on the first day.

Woolworth also revealed yesterday that it is exploring the launch of a national credit card scheme.

Marks and Spencer, the giant retailer headed by Lord Rayner, looks set to beat the conservative target it set itself of some 250,000 firm applications in by May. The total number of firm applications received by the new financial services division, St Michael, in Chester, is already in excess of the 31,000 cards issued during the eight month trial in Scotland.

The result augurs well for the group's estimate that it should capture two to three million of its 14 million weekly customers within the next five years and add £1 billion to sales through credit purchases. This would make it the third largest credit card operator after Access and Visa.

Some four million leaflets will be made available over the next few weeks and the card, with a credit limit of £1,500 should be running by April.

Woolworth said it is talking to several banks about launching a nationwide chargecard throughout the chain's 850 stores. Woolworth's DIY chain, B & Q, already operates a chargecard through Lloyds Bank and the recently acquired Comet electrical chain runs a scheme with North British group.

The aim is to provide a card which can be used by customers throughout all its various stores, including Woolco. Over 10 million customers shop every week in Woolworth.

Mr Nigel Whittacker, Woolworth director, said it had been looking at a credit card scheme for several months but as yet is only in preliminary talks with banks. At this stage Woolworth would not consider setting up and funding a separate financial services division, but would want a joint partner in the venture. The scheme is likely to be limited to credit. It does not expect to want to expand into other financial services such as loans, personal, and insurance which M and S has indicated it wants to do.

Mr Paul Guy, who joined Woolworth from Comet to become finance director, was in charge of the scheme until his sudden departure two weeks ago. An announcement on the card is expected to be sometime off.



Lord Rayner — tops target

Citicorp snaps up discount house

By Peter Rodgers, City Editor.

THE CITY'S smallest discount house, Seccombe Marshall and Campion is to be swallowed up for £7 million by Citicorp of New York and become part of the biggest bank in the world.

The deal dislodges Setcombe from its position as broker to the Bank of England in the discount market, which it has held for 60 years.

The Bank said yesterday that from January next it will start doing its own bill broking operations from an internal dealing room. The reason is that as Seccombe expands with Citicorp's backing there could be conflicts of interest with the role of the Bank's own broker. The Bank of England said there would be no other changes in its money market operations.

Until January Seccombe will not be able to absorb any additional capital from Citicorp's London merchant banking subsidiary, CIBL, which is making the agreed bid. But eventually Seccombe is expected to get an injection of an extra £5 million or so working capital which will nearly double its allowable holdings of bills to around £400 million.

The bid for Seccombe is 440p cash which compares with last night's closing price of only 410p. There is an alternative of unsecured CIBL loan notes.

Mr John Rogers of CIBL said that the acquisition would be "filling out" his bank's operations in London. It intended to become a leading market maker in the major London financial markets, and the discount market — which acts as an interface between the Bank of England and the banking system — takes it to the very shortest term end. The houses deal in bills up to a year's maturity.

There will have to be a strict separation from Citicorp's other activities, to avoid conflict of interest. Citicorp owns Citibank, which in London deals extensively in the money markets.

Seccombe chairman Mr David Campion said that the offer valued the company at a 47 per cent premium over assets. The firm employs only 28 people and can keep a maximum of £250 million on its books, whereas the larger discount houses are allowed to hold 10 times as much with only three times as many people.

BTR lashes Dunlop over refusal to give figures

By Margareta Pagano

BTR yesterday described Dunlop's refusal to provide up-to-date financial information to shareholders as outrageous, and has formally called on the Takeover Panel to force the debt-ridden group into releasing trading figures as quickly as possible.

The panel, which has the power to tell Dunlop to give details it believes are in the best interests of shareholders, is expected to announce its decision early next week. BTR's financial advisers, Morgan Grenfell, talked yesterday to panel members, who are understood to be sympathetic to BTR's views and may impose a time limit on Dunlop.

At Morgan Grenfell, Mr Guy Dawson, said it believed shareholders should be given trading figures for 1984, details of all provisions which will be taken into account, and a pro forma balance sheet. Trading figures so far into 1985, and an indication of the group's net worth, should also be released.

Dunlop refused to be drawn on the call to the panel. "We will disclose information as and when we see fit."

BTR also disclosed that only 0.26 per cent of Dunlop's shareholders had accepted its offer after the first closing date on Thursday night. But over 17 per cent of preference shareholders accepted the 75p-a-share offer, and BTR, with its original 27 per cent stake, now holds 45 per cent of the voting preference shares.

BTR said it was not disappointed by the low level of acceptances. "This is to be expected by the outrageous lack of trading information that they have been given to make any real judgments. But the high level of preference acceptances indicates real support."

The offer is extended until March 7 while the cash offer can be drawn out beyond that date. Dunlop shares finished slightly up.

Dunlop added: "The level of the offer price and its destructive tactics can now be seen to have been badly misjudged. It will have to increase its offer massively if it is to have any chance of success."

Press monopoly inquiry

By Maggie Brown

The Iliffe family's plans to transfer ownership of BPM Holdings' 41 newspaper titles, headed by the Birmingham Post & Mail, to the Yattendon Investment Trust, a private family trust, has been referred to the Monopolies & Mergers Commission.

The automatic referral under the Fair Trading Act springs from Yattendon's ownership of the Coventry Evening Telegraph and Cambridge Evening News. The Monopolies Commission investigating the merger will include Sir Alastair Burnet, of ITN. It will report within three months.

Mr Robert Iliffe, chairman of BPM Holdings and Yattendon, claimed yesterday that the move was a technical one since both groups had been controlled in practice by the family since 1944. However, BPM Holdings was a public company with outside shareholders until earlier this year, when Yattendon bid for the outstanding shares successfully. The family members held control through individual and family trusts.

He said: "We made the request for the transfer, and one hopes it will be a straightforward thing."

The Birmingham Post & Mail series includes the Burton Daily Mail, Wrexham Leader, County Times and Denbigh Free Press, as well as a range of London weeklies, the Kensington News & Post, Marylebone Mercury, Putney Chronicle, South Kensington News, Westminster and Pimlico News, and City of London Post.

The Iliffe family have decided to take the newspapers back into private ownership to allow the business to be restructured without having to account to outside shareholders, or pay regular dividends. It says advertising in the West Midlands is in decline, and it is cautious about any profit growth. It is also engaged in a strong defensive action to safeguard its key Birmingham circulation area from competition from the country's first daily free paper.

Under the Fair Trading Act written consent from the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry is required if newspaper ownership is transferred to a newspaper proprietor whose papers have a daily circulation of 500,000 or more copies a day, with Coventry & Mail sells about 310,000 copies a day, with COventry and Cambridge adding another 140,000, with the half million mark being passed with the addition of the Burton Daily Mail and the weeklies.

Esso falls into line on petrol price rise

By John Hooper, Energy Correspondent

Esso, which has built up a reputation as the odd-man-out in the petrol market, yesterday fell into line with the other leading companies and put up its price by 2.7p. From midnight last night, all but a handful of small independent chains were charging 104.6p for a gallon of four-star.

Esso's move came as a considerable relief to the other firms. Shell had started the ball rolling with a 2.7p increase on Tuesday. Texaco, Mobil and BP followed suit on Wednesday. But Esso did not move, causing speculation that it might force its competitors into a humiliating climbdown

This time, however, the price rise was clearly in the interests of the business as a whole. In the first place, it will take the edge off the losses that the industry has suffered because of the increased sterling cost of gasoline. But more importantly perhaps it brings the price of four star sufficiently close to the psychologically important £2 mark for there to be a good chance that the Chancellor will have to take the blame for breaching the barrier when he increases the duty on Budget day.

Hopkinson warns on conflict of interest

By Margareta Pagano

One of the City's sharpest critics, Mr David Hopkinson, has once again stirred the fierce debate over potential conflicts of interests in the changing financial industry with a warning over the shifting power structure within the Square Mile.

Speaking at a Society of Investment Analysts dinner on Thursday, Mr Hopkinson picked out the certain decline in the power of the Stock Exchange over the last two years. "This has been brought about by its own inflexibility and greed by refusing consistently to trim the monopolist powers to charge excessive commissions and limit the spread of its membership."

In his leading role as guardian of the investing community, Mr Hopkinson, head of the giant M & G investment fund, added: "The two forces which amalgamated to achieve this decline were the new breed of unanswerable large institutional investors and the new breed also of large financial conglomerates, whether you call them banks or merchants, or international banks.

"We may also be seeing a decline in the power of the Bank of England as the Treasury and politicians batter away at its unwritten authority. It is worth stopping to consider how these new power centres may themselves be corrupted if they do not take proper account of their general responsibilities towards the common wealth or the public interest.

"There is no doubt that the large institutional investors are being corrupted by worshipping at the altar of short-term performance and the greed that accompanies that false god."

On the subject of the new power centre—the new financial conglomerates—Mr Hopkinson warned that they would also be restricted or overcome if they did not seriously tackle conflicts of interest.

"The new government White Paper, with all its quagmire of quangoes and self-regulatory authorities, is only the preliminary skirmishing in a much larger battle that is to come . . . when one institution is lending, giving advice, underwriting, broking and managing funds.

"I cannot forecast what is going to happen in this country but the White Paper is long on words and short on practicalities." Over the coming years there would be floods of tears. "I would keep the lifeboats handy."

His advice to institutional investors was that the wider picture of control had to be kept in view otherwise steps would be taken to control their power. "In the last resort everything comes back to personal integrity . . . which is up to individuals to impose on organisations."

Herman Smith to axe pressworks

By Maggie Brown

Herman Smith, the Dudley, West Midlands motor component and engineering group, closing its presswork subsidiary, with the loss of 110 jobs.

The group also asked for dealing in its shares to be suspended at 22p while the affairs of the various group's activites are reorganised."

Armstrong Engineering, a subsidiary of Armstrong Equipment, a competitor group has agreed to buy the majority of the plant, stock and business of the presswork operation serving the motor industry for a minimum £350,000. The company says there is not enough business for the pressworking industry.

In the company's last financial year its presswork business lost £1.3 million out of total group losses of £1.95 million and has continued at a loss since then.

Investors in Industry holds a fifth of the company's shares, following a £1 million rights issue 14 months ago.

● The City Business Machines Group claims it is creating 400 jobs in London and the South-east as part of a major expansion plan over the next 12 months. Of these, however, 240 will be for self-employed sales men and women, who have gone through a four-week training course run by the firm. The remainder will be staff service and administration jobs.

NEWS IN BRIEF

BOOKER McConnell, the foods and supermarkets group currently beseiged by bids, has paid £6,700,000 for Fitch Lovell's cash and carry business. The deal gives Booker another 13 depots in the South West and Midlands that last year produced sales of more than £51 million and pre-tax profits of £752,000.

Booker already has a national cash and carry network of 102 depots though the takeover would allow for great efficiencies. The group, currently fighting a renewed £330 million takeover bid from the Dee Corporation, estimated that the newly-acquired cash and carry business would add more than £1 million a year to its own profits.

WEST GERMAN motor manufacturer, Daimler-Benz, revealed yesterday that it is to acquire the 50 per cent it does not already own in the military aircraft and tank engine-maked, MTU, for an undisclosed price from the struggling trucks group, MAN.

UNEMPLOYMENT in the European Community rose sharply last month to hit an all-time high of 13.6 million or 12 per cent, the EEC's Eurostat said yesterday.

OVER 50 million people used British Airports Authority facilities in 1984, making it only the second authority after the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to have handled so much traffic in one year, with Heathrow leading the way with 29 million passengers and Gatwick experiencing a record 14 million passengers.

CHEVRON Corporation announced yesterday that it expected to conclude the sale of its Italian refining and marketing operations to the First Arabian Cororation. First Arabian, a Luxembourg-based banking and investment concern, acquired Amoco's Italian refining and marketing assets in 1983.

BP to reorganise shipping operation

By John Hooper

British Petroleum yesterday announced a wide-ranging reorganisation of its shipping operations. In a statement, BP said that it had told its 1,900 seafaring staff to be prepared for a further shift in emphasis from the transportation of crude oil and refined products to the servicing of offshore rigs and platforms.

Within its crude and product carrying operations, there is to be an increase in the size of the medium tonnage fleet at the expense of smaller vessels.

The company is buying three medium-sized second-hand tankers, the first of which — the Libra — has already been purchased and renamed the BP Energy. A small tanker is to be sold immediately and it seems certain that more will be disposed of soon.

Until recently, BP Shipping was essentially a service division within the British Petroleum Group of companies. But last year it was given a quasi-independent status and told to make a profit, even if this meant providing services for other companies or forcing other parts of the BP group to look elsewhere for their shipping needs.

Yesterday's announcement was the company's first big move since then. It underlined the fact that the management sees the best prospects as being in the area of offshore support. BP Shipping has four offshore vessels — the emergency support ship Iolair, the diving and supply vessel Sulair, and two safety and support ships operating in the far northern magnus field, Seagair and Coltair.

The company also runs two North Sea vessels for third parties and will operate the innovative SWOPS (Single Well Oil Production System) ship which is to be used to get oil from the Cyrus field, 150 miles north-east of Aberdeen. The SWOPS vessel, ordered earlier this year, is being built at the Harland and Wolff yard in Belfast.

● The spot price of Britain's North Sea oil, which earlier this week came within five cents of the official price, fell by 25 cents a barrel yesterday after sales by the Saudi trding company, Norbec, and reports that new supplies or Iranian crude will soon be available.

Investors in Industry safeguard

By Peter Rodgers

The Bank of England is likely to insist that conditions are built into any deal to sell the Investors in Industry (3i) group, to safeguard its special role in providing long-term finance for small and medium-sized companies.

The Governor of the Bank, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, made this clear last night at a dinner given by 3i in Birmingham. The industrial finance company is owned by the Bank of England and English and Scottish clearing banks, which are considering plans to sell it off, perhaps through a flotation on the stock market.

The management of 3i has been resisting the idea of a sale, which was first promoted by Midland Bank. It believes this could undermine its commitment to very long-term risks and rewards. Under an ordinary shareholding structure 3i might be forced to look to much more immediate financial rewards from its investments in developing companies.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton said he could not forecast the outcome of a review of the present shareholdings, now under way with the help of the merchant bankers, Morgan Grenfell. He added: "What I can say is that if there should be changes it would be right that 3i should maintain its successful role in the long-term finance of the unquoted enterprise sector of industry."

Mr Leigh-Pemberton did not spell out how the special character of the 3i group would be preserved, although a golden share or some similar device might be possible.

Guide to beat computer fraud

By Peter Rodgers

The Bank of England has sent a detailed guide to computer security to 600 banks and licensed deposit takers, to encourage them to beef up their vigilance against fraud, accidents and mistakes which could cause financial chaos.

The three-part document, prepared by accountants Deloitte Haskins & Sells, includes a questionnaire designed to search out weaknesses in computer system management, for use by senior management of British banks and financial institutions. They are expected to ask their technical experts to fill it in, and there is a plain man's guide for chief executives, to help them assess the answers.

The Bank of England maintains that the new attack on fraud and other computer dangers is not a response to any significant banking problems in the UK but an attempt to keep a step ahead in the game as technology changes.

However, the documents, written for the bank by Mr Geoffrey Smart, of Deloitte's management consultancy, carry a warning that they should not be allowed to fall into unauthorised hands in case they help outsiders break computer security. They list a variety of ways that computer security can be cracked by fraudsters—though without any detail—including the use of special programs which only come into operation when they are triggered by a particular date or transaction.

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COMPANY BRIEFING

Barrow rights issue for growth

Barrow Hepburn's re-emergence as a speciality chemical and international engineering group is now well-enough established for lingering losses in the hide dealing business to be of little moment. A £2.4 million rights issue will help to finance the expansion in plastics, leaving leather as a minor activity.

Although the £8.6 million turnover increase to £41 million last year owes something to the safety harness acquisition in the United States, the performance of the Italian tanning machinery subsidiary was outstanding. Chemical compounds, including footwear components, also showed good growth, in common with the rest of the industry.

Pre-tax profit sprang back up to £1.65 million from £1.12 million, with a fairly equal contribution from the two main division. Chemical profit was up by half, while engineering multiplied its surplus. Consumer goods, including packaging and textile importing, produced a reduced contribution of £361,000, while hide dealing slipped back, dipping £95,000 into the red. Interest charges more than doubled to £422,000.

The dividend is being maintained at 2.2p net a share but the final is being split into two payments of 0.7p, one on the capital increased by the one-for-four rights issue at 39p. Future dividend payments will be more even. the reason for the rights is to cover the loan repayment arising from the plastic coatings acquisition and working capital needs. The chairman, Professor Roland Smith, anticipates further expansion in the two main fields. At 47p, down 2p, the shares are priced at 15 times full-taxed earnings, and have moved relatively little over ten eventful years.

R. M. DOUGLAS is experiencing fierce competition and encountering scattered losses in contracting at home and abroad. Turnover rose by £10.3 million to £74.5 million in the six months to September 30, but a loss of £295,000, against a corresponding £200,000 profit was the result. No shortfall for the whole year is expected but the dividend decision is being deferred and the previous 0.375p interim payment lapses.

Tourist boost

Mount Charlotte Investments' rapid moves into London and other hotels, including the five acquired in Scotland last summer through the Skean Dhu purchase, look more astute every day that the dollar rises.

The inflow of American tourists attracted by holiday and shopping bargains has extended the season and raised the demand for accommodation in less expensive areas.

Turnover up by more than half to £43.7 million, from £27.7 million, brought in a more than doubled pre-tax profit of £10 million, against £4.6 million, in line with the rate of progress at the interim stage.

The acquisitions, including the Royal Scot Hotel, near King's Cross, which only came in mid-November, will only make a significant contribution this year.

On the higher capital, earnings were up almost a quarter to 5.2p a share. The increase in interest charges to £2 million was relatively modest and there was a gain of £315,000 on property and other disposals.

A final dividend of 0.74p net a share, against 0.63p previously, lifts the total to 1.2p from 1.03p net a share. On the announcement the shares reached a new peak of 86p, before settling back at 84p.

Ault out of the red

Ault & Wiborg, the ink manufacturer controlled by Sun Chemical of the United States, is well out of the red, but debt reduction takes priority over any dividend payment to the minority of shareholders who held out against a full takeover.

At 426, odwn 4p yesterday, the shares are the same amount below what Sun was offering a year ago. In income and alternative investment terms, holders are losing quite heavily.

On sales £10.8 million higher at £78 9 million, pre-tax profit was £1.12 million last year, compared with the £207,000 loss incurred previously. The profit includes another £280,000 loss in Italy, where extra closure costs of £331,000 were also incurred. Whereas inks and resins recovered strongly, paint ran up a £401,000 loss, an adverse swing of £1.1 million.

Glass group improves

United Glass, the bottle and Ravenhead tableware manufacturer half owned by Distillers, attained a more satisfactory return on its main operations last year after the massive redundancy and rationalisation programme of previous years. The market did not recover, however, and imports have been showing a rising tendency again. Costs are still increasing faster than prices.

Turnover for the year to December 1 was £2.5 million higher at £182 million. Plastic products and engineering services continued to perform well, accounting for just over a third of turnover and contributing £3.9 million, an increase of more than half, to profit. Before closure costs, profit was £10.5 million up at £12.6 million.

Before a tax clawback the surplus was £8.66 million, against the loss of £14.4 million, mostly arising from redundancy payments, incurred previously. Interest charges were down just over 10 per cent to £3.6 million.

Watsham's confident

Watsham's, the medical, optical and defence manuals supplier, has expanded so fast through acquisitions that comparisons are almost superfluous, but it is clear that the Lonsdale purchase from Menzies last August is crucial. It made a big impact on the results for the six months to September 30, though once again the rise in turnover was faster than the profit increase.

Compared with optical and electronic equipment, margins on the medical distribution business acquired the previous year are narrow and this also applies to Lonsdale on past evidence. Therefore the rise in sales to £7.1 million from £3.43 million, and pre-tax profit advance to £886,000 from £603,000 is less significant than the increase in earnings to 3.3p a share, from 2.8p. Lonsdale was acquired for £7.7 million through a vendor placing of shares.

The interim dividend is raised to 0.9p, from 0.825p net a share. At 168p, the shares are close to their peak.

Dividend increased

Pauls is backing up its rejection of the bid from Harrisons & Crosfield with a dividend increase of over half for the year ending next month and a forecast of rapid growth outside the animal feed business in future years. A $25 million United States acquisition in flavours and fragrances will open up worldwide prospects in this area. Negotiations began before the bid intervention.

Only a slight profit increase to £11.5 million from £11.35 million is forecast for the current year — conditions down on the farm and in malting having been unfavourable for all millers. An early recovery is expected in animal feed. The new developments in human food, particularly breakfast cereals and own-brand soups, are proceeding favourably.

A final dividend of 10.5p, against 6p, will lift the total to 13p net a share.

Dollar fright for shares

THE MARKETS

Stock markets had to contend with several adverse factors yesterday, not least of which was President Reagan's speech ruling out US intervention in money markets and telling other countries to protect their own currencies.

The subsequent upsurge in the dollar sent the pound tumbling, although it managed to hold its own against other exchange rates. Both gilts and equities took fright and fell over a broad front. Selling was relatively light, but the absence of the recent support from overseas investors left most share prices languishing, although there was a little new time interest for the next account in later trading.

The collapse of the pits talks, a small rise in the inflation rate and the NIESR report calling for higher taxes in the budget all helped to deflate recent optimism.

Consumer stocks were high on the list of casualties, with stores, foods and breweries all dull. Habitat were particularly weak on fears of a value added tax on children's clothes in the budget. There were also suggestions that the company may be bidding for either Foster Bros or Debenhams. The shares closed 22p down at 314p. Grand Met were sold down to 283p before recovering to 288p, down 13p, after a rather gloomy analysts' meeting.

Falls in other leaders were between 2p and 8p, but ICI managed to resist the trend again at 884p, up 5p, in anticipation of good results next Thursday.

Vickers, reporting next Monday, lost 6p to 240p, although analysts are looking for profits of between £30 million and £35 million, well above last year's figure of £19.5 million. Electricals took another turn for the worse after Thursday's recovery. Adverse comment on Plessey's third-quarter figures knocked 8p from the shares at 184p. Insurances had another bad day on nervousness in front of next month's figures.

Banks also lost ground, but discount houses received a fillip from the agreed 440p cash bid for Seccombe Marshall. (up 30p to 420p) from Citicorp. Properties and buildings reflected concern over the prospect of a long period of high interest rates.

Recent speculative favourites in the engineering sector relinquished some of their gains. Oils slipped several pence, but the explorers attracted fresh demand after Thursday's good profits from Saxon and Invent Energy. Golds gave up another 50 cents to 1½ dollars.

Racal came back 8p to 198p in sympathy with yesterday's poor figures from Plessey. Profit-taking chipped 22p off the Henderson Group, to 288p. Heywood Williams, with figures due soon, gained 2p to 136p. Williams Holdings' recent acquisition led to a 1p rise to 200p. Muirhead lost another 16p to 168p after results yesterday

Profit-taking took Brammer back 10p to 315p. BTR, which extended the offer for Dunlop holdings until March 7, lost 7p to 634p. R.M. Douglas (Holdings), reporting losses of £295,000 at the half-year stage against £200,000 profits last time, came back 9p to 45p.

Main changes: Seccombe Marshall 420p up 30p; Vickers 240p down 6p; ICI 884p up 5p; Habitat 314p down 22p; Grand Met 288p down 13p; BP 560p down 8p; Plessey 184p down 8p; Jaguar 325p down 5p.

Stock Exchange turnover for February 21: Number of bargains 18,122; value £389.24 million.

● Frankfurt: The soaring US currency proved a mixed blessing as export-orientated shares closed higher, but import-related issues lost ground. The Commerzbank Index finished at 1171.3, up slightly from 1170.0 on Thursday.

● Paris: Shares finished lower across a broad front in relatively calm trading. The market indicator was off 0.6 per cent at the end of business and declines outnumbered advances by 88 to 69.

● Tokyo: Prices closed mixed in moderate but rather indecisive trading. Nikkei Dow Jones index: 12,147.06 (12,128.46).

● Hong Kong: Market closed for Chinese lunar year holiday.

FT Ordinary Share Index down 9.7 at 975.2. FT-SE 100 Index down 10.2 at 1268.9. Pound: $1.0765; DM 3.64; Fr11.18. Gold: $299. Account: Feb 11 to 22. FT All Share Index down 3.79 to 611.11. Sterling Index 71.5 (1975=100). RPI 359.8 (January) up 5.0 per cent on year.

COMMODITIES

Copper: cash £1,269 per tonne: 3 months £1,290.50 per tonne.
Tin: cash £10,060 per tonne: 3 months £10,070 per tonne.
Lead: cash £336.50 per tonne: 3 months £344.50 per tonne.
Zinc: cash £830 per tonne: 3 months £810 per tonne.
Silver: spot 558.50p per troy oz: 3 months 577p.
Rubber: spot 72.50p per kilo; Mar £710 per tonne; Apr £720 per tonne; May £730 per tonne.
Coffee: Mar £2,373 per tonne; May £2,418 per tonne; Jul £2,450 per tonne; Sep £2,477 per tonne; Nov £2,488 per tonne; Jan £2,480 per tonne.
Cocoa: Mar £2,184 per tonne; May £2,179 per tonne; Jul £2,162 per tonne; Sep £2,144 per tonne; Dec £2,015 per tonne; Mar £2,008 per tonne.

UNIT TRUSTS

	Bid	off
Abbey Unit Trust		
American	a138.7	147.6
Comm & Gen	80.4	85.8
General	a101.9	109.0
Gilt & Fxd	110.6	117.0
Hi Income	a70.5	75.0
Japan	186.6	198.5
Nat Res	70.1	75.4
Worldwide	a158.8	168.9
Allied Hambro		
Allied Cap	188.8	200.1
Allied 1st	a159.0	168.5
Am Spec Sits	68.7	72.8
Assets	159.6	169.2
Equity	a97.2	103.0
Far East	140.6	149.0
Growth	102.6	108.8
Gw Secs	27.7	28.5
Balanced	273.0	289.4
do Acc	408.4	432.9
High Inc	180.6	191.4
High Yld	115.6	122.5
Income Ex	99.5	105.1
Internatl	a69.5	73.7
Japan	70.1	74.3
Met Min Com	101.8	108.0
Overseas	151.7	160.2
Pacific	130.6	138.2
Recovery	54.5	57.8
Secs of Am	199.6	211.8
Smaller Cos	a93.3	100.8
Sec Smaller	134.7	134.7
Smll Co Ex	161.3	171.0
Technology	96.7	102.5
USA Exempt	333.8	353.8
Arbuthnot Securities		
Comm Sh	88.8	94.9
East & Int	107.7	115.1
Fin & Prop	43.0	45.9
Foreign Grwth	67.1	71.7
High Inc	a54.2	57.9
N Am & Int	85.9	91.8
Pref Share	24.4	26.0
Smaller Cos	85.2	91.1
Archway		
Archway Fd	213.5	227.1
Barclays Unicorn		
America	82.8	88.0
Australia	108.2	115.2
do Acc	148.9	158.3
Capital	a162.8	173.1
Exempt	307.9	327.5
Extra Inc	53.7	57.1
Financial	180.8	192.3
500 Trust	a185.4	197.2
General	100.9	107.3
Gilt & Fixed	a49.4	51.7
Gr Pacific	104.9	111.5
do Acc	105.8	112.5
Growth Accum	137.2	145.9
Income Trust	a231.2	245.9
Pref Assets	99.0	105.3
Recovery	132.9	141.3
Trustee Fd	80.5	85.6
Worldwide	a118.8	126.3
Barlow Brothers		
Stratton	a472.8	491.1
do Acc	a698.8	726.7
Bridge		
Income	103.4	113.1
Cap Inc	102.7	110.5
do Acc	130.8	140.7
Exempt	a233.0	251.1
Britannia		
Am Growth	94.2	100.5
Am Small Cos	25.6	27.3
Am Spec Sits	80.3	85.7
Australian	74.6	79.6
Commod	151.2	161.3
Extra Inc	a48.5	51.7
Far East	43.1	46.0
Gilt	25.0	26.3
Gold & Gen	21.8	23.5
Hong Kong Perf	a26.2	27.9
Inc & Gr	a149.6	159.6
Jap	a40.7	43.4
National	143.7	153.3
Preference	a16.8	17.9
Smaller Cos	a109.2	116.5
Spec Mkt Sits	73.2	78.1
Un Energy	a63.5	67.7
World Tech	50.1	53.4
Brown Shipley		
Exempt	159.0	170.9
Financial	a93.6	100.4
Growth	107.4	115.5
do Acc	163.5	175.8
High Inc	48.3	51.9
Income	53.9	58.0
N Amer	56.5	60.7
Recovery	26.2	28.2
Unit Fd	a47.4	57.8
Canada Life		
Gen Dist	a88.3	93.0
do Acc	134.7	141.8
Inc Dist	60.5	63.7
do Acc	115.7	121.8
Chieftain		
American	50.3	53.8
Australia	18.5	19.6
Basic	—	—
Far East	—	—
High Inc	40.5	43.4
Inc & Grwth	a38.5	41.3
Internatl	63.6	68.2
Pref & Gilt	—	—
Small Cos	—	—
County Bank UT Managers		
Capital Acc	212.6	227.2
Extra Inc	122.9	130.7
Financial	a96.3	102.4
Growth	217.5	231.3
Income	99.0	105.3
Portfolio	136.8	146.5
Smaller Cos	a142.2	151.2
EFM Unit Trust		
American	76.5	81.8
High Dist	89.6	95.2
Internatl	179.3	191.8
Resources	27.0	28.8
Tokyo	114.4	122.4
Discretionary		
Income	74.8	79.1
Dunton Lawrie Fund Managers		
Growth		
Income		
Overseas		
Equity & Law		
Eq & Law	189.7	201.8
Far East Acc	101.0	107.4
Gilts & Fixed	73.8	77.8
do Acc	82.8	88.6
High Inc	139.0	147.8
do Acc	162.0	172.2
N Am Acc	146.1	155.4
UK Growth	101.6	108.0
do Acc	111.7	118.8
Fidelity		
American	97.1	103.3
Am Spec Sits	57.9	61.6
Managed	88.0	93.7
Growth & Inc	67.3	71.7
Japan	92.2	98.1
Max Inc Eq	54.6	58.4
Spec Sits	98.3	104.6
Framlington		
Amer & Gen	205.4	218.4
do Acc	207.4	220.8
Amer Turnd	201.6	214.4
do Acc	206.2	219.2
Capital	145.8	155.0
do Acc	169.4	180.8
Conv & Gilt	74.0	78.6
do Acc	92.4	98.2
Extra Inc	a109.6	116.8
Income	84.2	89.2
Inter Growth	148.6	158.0
do Acc	162.8	173.0
Japan & Gen	a59.2	62.8
do Acc	—	—
Recovery	a96.2	102.2
do Acc	102.0	108.4
Friends Provident		
Equity	155.3	164.3
do Acc	250.3	264.8
Fixed In	98.2	104.2
do Acc	105.0	111.9
G & A Trust Managers		
G & A	87.0	92.2
Gartmore Fund Managers		
American	90.9	96.8
British	a42.1	44.8
Commodity	66.1	70.4
Extra Inc	36.2	38.6
Far East	86.6	92.2
Gilt	a24.9	26.0
Global	114.5	121.9
High Inc	a99.5	105.9
Inc	a46.1	49.1
Insurance		
Japan	74.5	79.2
Special Sit	68.8	73.2
Govett		
Intn'l Grth	65.6	70.1
Guardian Royal Exchange		
Gilt	112.4	118.8
Grwth Eq	148.7	158.2
Guardhill	a228.1	237.4
N American	134.2	142.8
Pacific	142.2	151.3
Prop Shares	a143.3	152.5
Small Cos	157.7	167.2
G.T. Unit Managers		
Capital	a66.6	71.6
European	146.9	154.1
Far East	85.1	91.1
Income	63.0	67.4
Internatl	113.2	121.2
Japan	151.6	162.2
Pension	143.6	150.4
Tech & Grth	85.2	91.2
US & Gen	53.5	57.3
Liq Reserve	98.6	100.2
Henderson Administration		
Am Smaller Co	58.0	62.0
Australian	66.5	70.5
Capital Grwth	46.7	49.9
do Acc	52.5	56.1
European	131.9	138.8
Euro Ex	261.2	272.1
Extra Inc	119.4	127.7
Financial		
Fixed	51.9	54.9
Gilt	a42.8	45.3
Global Tech	a103.1	109.3
High Inc	a122.1	130.8
High Inc Ex	91.8	95.6
Inc & Assets	a77.0	82.4
Inc & Grwth	103.0	110.2
do Acc	191.2	204.5
Internatl	117.8	126.0
Japan	a89.8	95.2
Japan Ex	a82.4	86.6
N American	a148.9	159.3
N Amer Ex	87.7	91.8
Oil & Nat	a82.3	87.2
Pref & Gilt	46.8	50.0
Recovery	a74.4	79.6
Smllr Cos Ex	92.0	95.8
Smllr Cos Div	a73.9	79.4
Special Sit	a94.5	101.1
do Acc	130.5	139.6
Worldwide	262.1	275.9
Hill Samuel		
British	394.4	419.6
Capital	a75.2	80.1
Dollar	a174.8	185.5
European	a63.7	67.8
Far East	98.3	104.6
Financial	244.2	259.8
General	297.0	318.0
Gilt & Fixed	27.9	28.1
do Growth	a35.2	37.7
High Yld	48.2	51.3
Income	58.9	62.7
Internatl	a102.2	108.8
Japan Tech	a31.4	33.5
Nat Res	a33.5	35.7
Security	134.7	143.3
Special Sit	76.9	81.9
James Finlay		
Fd of Invest	88.4	95.0
do Acc	127.8	137.4
High Inc	52.8	56.7
Wld Energy	17.9	19.2
do Acc	24.5	26.3
Key Fund Managers		
Eq and Gen	163.4	175.7
Fixed	61.2	65.8
Income	152.4	163.9
Legal & General		
Equity	208.3	223.3
do Acc	314.5	336.5
Gilt	65.4	69.2
Lloyds Bank		
Balanced	141.3	151.1
do Acc	242.2	259.0
Energy	a55.2	59.0
do Acc	59.3	63.4
Extra Inc	115.4	123.4
do Acc	194.7	208.2
Income	195.2	208.7
do Acc	365.1	390.4
N Amer	a106.9	114.3
do Acc	113.6	121.4
Sm Cos & Recov	133.7	142.9
do Acc	146.8	156.9
World Grth	158.8	169.8
do Acc	220.1	235.4
Midland		
Capital	63.6	67.8
Com & Gen	127.6	136.1
Gilt & Fixed	49.6	51.8
High Yld	116.0	122.6
Income	123.3	131.5
Japan & Pac	166.4	177.4
N American	99.6	106.2
Overseas	84.6	90.2
Minster		
Exempt	208.2	214.2
Minster	91.0	94.0
M & G Group		
American	a207.7	220.2
do Acc	236.1	250.3
Amer Recov	240.5	254.9
do Acc	256.8	272.0
Australia	a81.0	87.5
do Acc	87.3	94.8
Charibond	102.7	102.7
Charifund	a285.8	288.7
Commodity	a196.3	208.1
do Acc	250.8	265.9
Comp Grth	311.6	330.3
Conv Grth	263.6	279.4
Conv Inc	a142.6	151.2
Dividend	284.2	301.2
do Acc	789.3	836.7
European	110.2	116.8
do Acc	130.2	138.0
Extra	160.9	170.6
do Acc	323.8	343.3
Far East	a161.4	171.1
do Acc	193.9	205.5
Fd of Invest	191.3	202.8
do Acc	290.4	307.8
General	a441.1	467.6
do Acc	895.0	948.7
Gilt	a54.1	56.8
do Acc	75.0	78.8
High Inc	218.5	231.6
do Acc	554.5	587.8
Japan	492.7	522.3
do Acc	525.8	557.3
Int Growth	a636.3	676.6
do Acc	992.0	1051.5
Midland	375.5	398.0
do Acc	889.7	943.1
Pension	339.7	355.8
Recovery	226.0	239.6
do Acc	282.5	299.4
2nd Gen	505.9	536.3
do Acc	959.8	1017.4
Smaller Cos	a495.5	525.2
do Acc	756.1	801.5
Trustee	320.9	340.2
National Provident		
Growth	153.4	163.2
do Acc	239.5	254.8
Overseas	454.3	480.8
do Acc	544.4	576.1
Nel Managers		
Nelstar	—	—
do Gilt	a62.9	64.5
do High Inc	59.4	62.5
do Intntl	—	—
Oppenheimer Fund Managers		
Practical	42.5	45.3
do Acc	74.7	76.9
Pearl		
Grwth	64.2	68.4
do Acc	93.8	99.3
Income	84.6	90.1
Pearl	90.7	96.5
do Acc	151.6	161.3
Prolific		
Far East	120.0	128.6
Extra Inc	57.3	61.0
High Inc	121.6	129.4
Internatl	92.5	99.1
N Amer	124.6	133.5
Spec Sits	139.1	148.0
Technology	130.9	140.2
Prudential Trust		
Prudential	317.6	337.8
Reliance Unit Trust		
British Life	129.6	137.1
Reliance Inc	79.5	84.9
do Acc	101.8	108.6
Ridgefield		
Income	103.3	109.9
Internatl	238.1	253.3
Rothschild Asset Management		
America	256.5	270.0
do Acc	272.5	288.8
Energy Res	187.5	197.3
Income	321.7	338.6
Smaller Cos	106.2	111.7
Save and Prosper Group		
Capital	87.9	94.0
Comm Share	57.2	60.8
Energy Ind	a54.4	57.8
European Grwth	57.4	61.0
Explorations	a34.8	36.8
Financial	66.2	70.8
Gilt Growth	70.7	71.5
Gilt Income	51.3	54.0
High Return	a125.7	133.7
High Yld	113.9	119.0
Income	a72.2	76.8
Internatl Bond	97.4	103.6
ITU	70.6	75.5
Japan	56.9	60.5
Japan Smllr Cos	86.5	92.5
New Tech	110.8	117.8
Scotbits	a91.7	98.0
Scotshares	117.0	124.4
Scotyield	104.6	111.2
SE Asia	103.2	109.7
Select Inter	62.5	66.8
Smaller Cos	111.6	118.7
Spec Sits	71.9	76.8
UK Equity	a129.0	137.9
Universal	70.2	74.6
US Growth	70.2	74.6
Schroder Unit Trust		
American	120.1	128.0
do Acc	121.1	129.1
Australian	a63.3	67.4
do Acc	67.1	71.5
Europe	64.2	68.4
do Acc	65.0	69.2
UK Equity	a76.7	81.7
do Acc	114.7	122.2
Gilt Fixed	a50.1	52.8
do Acc	69.3	73.1
Income	126.1	134.4
do Acc	265.9	283.4
Internatl	91.5	97.5
do Acc	125.2	133.4
Smaller	a103.4	110.2
do Acc	106.7	113.7
Tokyo	—	—
do Acc	129.1	137.6
Ph & C Fixd	—	—
Recovery	a578.8	614.9
Spec Exempt	a1018.9	1085.2
Scottish Widows		
Pegasus	174.0	185.2
do Acc	192.9	205.3
Sun Alliance		
Equity Trust	302.4	321.7
Target Managers		
Amer Eagle	79.8	85.4
Commodity	96.7	104.0
Energy	a48.4	51.8
Equity	97.2	103.7
Ex Exempt	583.6	622.5
Extra Inc	a85.1	91.0
Financial	190.8	203.5
Gilt Cap	203.6	212.1
Gilt Inc	a96.4	100.9
Income	54.4	58.2
Investment	105.8	112.8
Mal & Sing	30.6	32.6
Pacific	75.0	80.2
Preference	a14.7	15.9
Prof'nal	a431.7	460.5
Special Sit	a79.8	85.3
Worldwide Cap	a115.9	123.6
Trades Union		
T.U.U.T.	128.0	134.8
Transatlantic		
Colombo	375.9	393.0
do Acc	593.8	620.6
Fielding	182.8	195.2
do Acc	195.6	209.5
Tyndall Managers		
Australian	66.8	71.5
do Acc	68.4	73.2
Capital	a260.6	276.4
do Acc	446.2	473.0
Exempt	a211.6	225.4
do Acc	451.8	481.2
Far Eastern	139.5	149.7
do Acc	147.8	158.5
Fin & Prop	a36.5	38.9
Gilt Cap	108.8	113.2
do Acc	117.3	121.9
Gilt Inc	100.5	104.3
do Acc	145.7	151.2
High Yield	39.6	42.2
do Acc	79.8	85.0
Income	166.4	176.4
do Acc	480.0	508.8
Internatl	129.6	138.2
do Acc	182.0	194.0
Natural Res	204.2	217.8
do Acc	286.8	305.6
N American	a116.3	124.5
do Acc	132.3	141.6
Preference	102.0	108.8
do Acc	233.6	248.8
Scottish	a300.4	320.0
do Acc	318.2	339.0
Smaller Cos	a139.4	148.5
Special Sits	79.5	84.7
TSB Trust		
Extra Inc	a83.8	89.2
General	a118.3	125.9
do Acc	187.4	199.4
Income	155.7	165.7
do Acc	230.1	244.8
Intl	245.2	260.9
do Acc	295.9	314.8
Pacific	122.7	130.6
Select Opp	46.2	49.2
do Acc	49.2	52.4
Vanguard Trust		
Vanguard Grth	129.0	134.9
do Acc	182.1	190.5
Vang High Yld	137.0	144.2
Vang Trust	99.7	104.9
do Acc	143.2	150.6
Wardley Unit Trust Managers		
American	73.7	79.3
Australian	a39.3	42.3
Nat Res	54.3	57.8
Far East	72.4	77.1
Income	57.7	62.1
Japan	72.9	78.4
Small Cos	a108.8	114.9
Technol	40.1	43.2
UK Trust	95.0	101.1

a Ex Dividend
b Offer assented
c Non assented
d Ex capital
e Ex rights
f Price adjusted
pp Part Paid

THE STOCK EXCHANGE

British Funds		
(short) Treasury		
3pc 1985	97 9/16	
9½pc 88C	93 13/16	-⅛
11½pc 1985	98 7/16	-1/16
Exchequer		
12pc '85 Con		
(medium) Transport		
3pc 78-88	81⅞	-⅛
Treasury		
10pc C86	97 3/16	-⅛
Exchequer		
10pc 1989	93½	-7/16
10½pc 1987	a99½	
10½pc 1988	95⅞	-7/16
11pc 1990	99⅞	-7/16
11pc 1991	99½	-⅜
11¾pc 1986	a99 9/16	-1/16
12¼pc 1985	99 7/16	-1/16
12¼pc 1990	a101½	-½
13¼pc 1987	101 13/16	-7/16
10¼pc 1987	97	-⅜
13¼pc 1992	a105⅞	-½
13½pc 1994	112	-⅜
14pc 1986	102¼	-5/16
2½pc 1986	88¼	-⅛
Funding		
5½pc 87-91	82	-⅛
6½pc 85-87	90½	-⅛
Treasury		
10pc 1987	95 15/16	-⅜
2pc IL 88	a108½	-⅛
10½pc 1989	94 15/16	-5/16
3pc 1987	85⅞	-⅛
3pc 1986	93¼	-⅛
5pc 86-89	80⅜	
7¾pc 85-88	91¼	-⅛
8¼pc 87-90	83⅞	-⅛
10pc 90C	95¼	-⅛
8¼pc 84-86	95⅜	-⅛
9½pc C89	97⅛	-7/16
10pc 1992	91⅞	-⅛
10pc C92	98⅜	-⅛
10½pc 87C	98 13/16	-5/16
11¾pc 1989	a98½	-7/16
11¾pc 1991	100⅛	-⅝
12pc 1986	99¼	-7/16
13pc 1990	104 3/16	-7/16
(long) Exchequer		
10½pc 1995	91⅞	-⅝
10½pc 1997	92⅞	-½
12pc 1998	105⅞	-½
12pc 99-02	104⅞	-½
12pc 13-17	114⅞	-⅝
12½pc 1992	a101	-½
12½pc 1999	a103⅞	-½
12½pc 1994	a102⅞	-⅝
13¼pc 1996	112⅞	-½
15pc 1997	124½	-½
8¾pc 1996	89⅞	-½
9¼pc 98A	90½	-½
Funding		
6pc 1993	a75½	-⅛
3½pc 99-04	47½	
Treasury		
2pc IL 1996	a110½	-⅛
2½pc IL 2003	99⅞	-⅛
2pc IL 2006	103	-⅛
2½pc IL 16	95¼	-⅛
5½pc 08-12	a57⅞	-⅛
6¾pc 95-98	72⅞	-⅛
7¾pc 12-15	77⅞	-⅛
8pc 02-06	81⅞	-⅛
8¾pc 1997	a82⅞	-⅛
9pc 1994	88⅞	-⅛
9pc 1992-6	a85	-⅛
9½pc 1999	88⅞	-⅛
10½pc 99C	94⅞	-⅛
10½pc 1999	96⅞	-⅛
11½pc 01-04	a102	-⅛
11¾pc 03-07	106½	-⅛
12pc 1995	101	-⅛
12pc 1987	99 19/32	-⅛
12½pc 1993	104	-⅛
12½pc 2005	114½	-⅛
12¾pc 1992	104⅝	-⅛
12¾pc 1995	108⅝	-⅛
13pc 2000	112	-⅛
13½pc 1997	110½	-⅛
13¼pc 04-08	a117⅞	-⅛
2½pc IL 2009	100	-⅛
2½pc IL 2011	104⅞	-⅛
2½pc IL 2013	£87⅞	
13¾pc 1993	112⅞	-⅛
13¾pc 00-03	117	-⅛
14pc 1996	113	-⅛
14pc 98-01	118⅞	-⅛
14½pc 1994	a114	-⅛
15¼pc 1996	124½	-⅛
15½pc 1998	a123	-⅛
2½pc 2020	95	-⅛
Redemption		
3pc 86-96	71⅞	-⅛
Gas		
3pc 90-95	65½	-⅛
(undated) Consols		
2½pc	24½	-⅛
4pc	38½	
Conversion		
3½pc	42⅞	-⅛
10pc 02	98½	-⅛
Treasury		
2½pc	24⅞	-⅛
3pc	29½	-⅛
War Loan		
3½pc	a34½	
Commnwlth Bonds		
NZ		
7½pc 83-86	a£95½	
S Rhodesia		
2½pc 65-70	£180	
Corps & Boards		
Manchester		
3pc 28	£23½	
Met. Water		
3pc 'B'	a£35½	
Banks & Disc Hses		
Allied Irish	133	
Ansbacher H	67	
ANZ Gp	a293	-8
Bank Ireland	248	-2
Bnk Scot	449	-3
Barclays Bnk	609	-5
Brown Ship	405	
Cater Allen	513	+5
Clive Dis	63	
First Nat	104½	+1
Gerrard & Na	322	+5
Goode D&M	a85	
Guinness Pt	a72	
Hambros Shrs	163	
Hill Sam	331	+1
H.K. & Shai	106	+1½
King & Sx	734	+6
Kleinwort	430	
Lloyds	557	-2
Mercury Sec	453	
Midland	334	-3
Nat West	652	-2
Rea Bros-A	78	
Ryl Bk Scot	a234	-1
Schroders	793	
S. St. Aub	63	+1
Std Chtrd	494	-3
Union Dis	a703	+5
Westpac	a227	-3
Wintrust	a250	-5
Financial Trusts		
[illegible] Tst	19½	+½
Aust Agr	250	
Brit Arrow	102	-2
Daily M Tr A	a£12½	
Dalgety	501	
Exco	633	-5
Inchcape	443	+5
Lon Inv Tst	a28½	-½
M & G Hdgs	a£41	-¼
Manson Fin	27	-1
Martin RP	395	
Nash Secs	36	-2
Prov Fin	209	-1
Rothschilds	103	-2
Sime Darby	78	+1
Smith Bros	97	
Wagon Fin	69	
Breweries		
Alld Lyons	a176	-1
Bass	504	-3
Bell A	155	-3
Belhaven	41	-1
Bodd Brew	76	
Brown M	a263	-3
Bulmer HP	a147	-5
Davenport	259	-3
Devenish	540	
Distillers	a283	-1
Forshaws	a435	
Greenall W	170	-2
Greene King	148	-2
Guinness	a240	-1
Highland Dis	62	
Higsons Brew	113	-2
Invergordon	128	
Marston Thom	58	
Scot Nw Bws	138	-1
Try City Lnd	a82	-1
Vaux Brew	273	-2
Whitbread A	193	-1
Whitbrd Inv	170	
Wolver & Dud	296	-2
Comm & Ind		
AAH	122	-2
AC Cars	35	
AGB Res	a224	-10
AI Ind	37	-1
APV Hdgs	241	
Aaronson	99	
Advest	161	-1
Alcan Al	a£25½	-⅜
Allen WG	Suspended	
All Colloid	a226	+1
All Plant	18	-1
Amber Day	101	
AMEC	252	-2
Amersham	365	
Amstrad	76	
Anchor Ch	216	+6
Ang TV-A	155	+2
Ang-A Ind	£10½	
Appleyard	53	
Arenson	28	
Argyll Grp	285	-5
Arlington	172	
Austn Eq	331	-1½
Arcliffe	38	
Ash & Lacy	414	-2
Ass Book	375	
Ass B Eng	11	
Ass B Fds	a218	-2
AB Ports	249	-1
Ass Dairies	a148	-2
Ass Eng	a130	-1
Ass Fish	a110	-1
Ass News	a820	+5
Ass Paper	177	-1
Astra	81	+1
Audiotnics	6½	
Ault & W	42	-4
Auto Prod	56	-1
Avana	a596	-5
Avon Rbr	285	-3
BAT Ind	358	-3
BBA	57	
BPB Ind	246	-2
BSR	125	
BTR	634	-7
Babcock	141	-2
Bailey B	27	
Bailey CH	18½	-2
Baird (W)	333	+3
Bairstow	75	
Baker P	185	-3
Bamro	82	+2
Barbican	3½	+1
Barker, Dob	10	
Barr & W A	102	
Barratt Dv	79	
Barrow HP	47	-2
Bassett (G)	181	+1
Bath & Ptl	239	
Beatson Ck	153	
Beattie A	117	-2
Beazer	376	-2
Beckman (A)	92	
Beecham	353	-5
Bejam	146	-2
Benrose	168	
Bentalls	65	-1
Berisfd SW	175	-1
Berisfords	a107	
Bespak	a221	
Bestobell	255	-20
Betec	61	-1
Bett Bros	a58	
Bibby (J)	260	
BICC	238	-5
Biddle	173	-5
Billam J	71	
Birmid Q	83½	-2½
B'ham Mint	215	
BL Ord	37	
Black P	230	
Blkwd Hdg	23½	-1
Blagden Inds	a128	
Bluebird	73	
Blue Circle	500	-5
Blundell P	a136	-1
BOC Grp	a294	-3
Bolton Txt	17	
Booker M	240	-5
Boosey H	134	
Boots	163	-4
Borthwick	a32	
Boulton W	8	
Bowater	241	-5
Bowthorpe	436	
Braithwaite	126	
Brammer	311	-14
Brasway	44	
Brick Dud	a64	-1
Bridon	128	-1
Br Aero	385	-8
Br BZ Cbn	12	
Br Car A	87	-2
BET dfd	a290	+2
BHS	242	-2
Br Mohair	127	-4
BPC	175	-3
Br Tar Prd	80	+1
Br Vending	62	-5
Br Vita	172	-3
Bronx Eng	14½	-1
Brook St	108	-3
Brown & J	18	
Bro Bv Knt	89	
Brown (J)	32	-1
Brown T'wse	126	
Brunning	155	-2
Bruntons (M)	62	
Bryant	70	-1
BSG Intl	24	
Bullough	a475	
Bulmer, Lb	75	
Bunzl	a430	-6
Burco	22	+1
Burnett Hl	165	-5
Burns And	52	-1
Burton Ord	412	-2
Btfeld (hy)	26	
Cable Wire	a503	-7
Cnery Sch	163	-4
Cap Elec Ind	320	-3
Camford	27½	
Canning W	100	
Cape Inds	35	-2
Carclo Eng	a239	-6
Carless Cpl	165	-5
Carpets Int	48	
Carr (J)	51	-3
Cary's Mill	128	
Casket S	47	-1
Castings	61	
Cattle's	25	
Caw Rd	67	
Cen & She	9½	
Central TV	183	
C.H. Inds	a57	
Ch'lain Phs	76	
Chem Tms	125	
Chloride	35	
Christie Tyl	49	-1
Christies In	553	+5
Clay (R)	106	-2
Clyde Bwrs	127	
Coalite Ch	243	+1
Coates Brd	175	
Coates 'A'	149	
Coats Pats	158	-1
600 Group	92	-½
Collins Ord	705	
Collins 'A'	530	
Combex	77	
Comb Eng	171	+3
Comfort Hts	a93	
Cosa	254	-5
Concentric	64	
Cookson	568	-6
Cooper Ind	12	
Cope Alum	183	+1
Corab	641	
Cosalt	60	-2
Costain Grp	346	-2
Countryside	a204	
Court Furn	140	
Courtaulds	153	-1
Cwn de Gt	a40	
Crest N'son	82	
Croda Intl	145	-2
do dfd	102	-1
Crown Hse	142	
Crystalate	168	
DRG	159	-1
Dale Elec	88	
Dobs Gwts	Suspended	
DPCE	465	
Davis, NM	175	-3
Davies G	119	
Davy Corp	98	-2
Deans Ind	302	-2
De La Rue	825	-15
Debenhams	204	-5
Dee Corp	a197	-5
Delta Met	123	-2½
Deritend St	124	
Desoutter	144	
Dewhirst	95	-4
Dewhurst & P	a25	
Diamond G	33	-1
Dixons Grp	a574	+2
Dobson Pk	a88	
Dom Hlds	a79	
Dominion Int	81	
Douglas R	45	-9
Dwig Mills	84½	
Dowty	198	-3
Dubilier	185	
Dufay Bit	36	-2
Dunhill	296	
Dunlop	45	+½
Dupont	27	
ERF	38	
Estn Price	373	-2
Edbro	120	+1
Elbar Ind	40	
Elsco Hlgs	97	
EIS	168	
Elect Compts	280	
Elect Mchs	41	-1
Elect Rents	a44	
Elliott B	68	-½
Ellis & Evd	a242	
Ellis, Gold	74½	
Elswick-H	11½	
Emess Light	193	
Energy	17½	
Empire Strs	100	-2
Eng China	288	
Erith	68	+1
Eur Ferries	141	-3½
do Spc Pref	120	-2
Eurotherm	a325	-2
Excalibur	71½	
Extel	343	+8
Exp Metal	95	-1
Farnell El	179	+3
FEB Intl	108	
Fenner	136	-1
Ferranti	154	-4
Ferguson	142	
Fine Art	73	
Finlan J	85	-3
Finlay J	146	-2
First Castle	a715	+7
First Leisure	243	+3
Flexes	281	-2
Fitch Lvll	a200	-1
Fleet	289	-2
Folkes NV	24	-½
Ford (Mtr)	261	
Formminster	146	
Fosece M	237	+1
Foster Bros	201	+2
Fothergill	148	
Freemans	172	-2
Friedland DG	183	
French T I	a73	
French KR	121	-2
Galliford	68	-2
Garford L	98	
Gartun Eng	62	
Geers G	152	-3
GEI Intl	37	-1
Gen Elect	a198	-2
Gestetnr-A	a86	-1
Gill & Duff	180	-1
Glaxo	£11[illegible]	
Glossop	224	-2
Glynwed	a174	
Goldbg (A)	46	
Gomme	39	
Grampian	102	+1
Granada	a180	
Grand Met	a288	-13
Grattan W	162	-4
GUS Ord	a692	-2
GUS 'A'	a679	-3
Greenbank	35	
Greenfield	44	-2
Greybull	13	
GKN	204	-6
HAT Grp	a94	
HTV NV	140	
Habitat M	314	-22
Haden	298	-2
Hall Eng	122	
Hall (Mat)	316	-2
Halma	135	
Halstead J	78	-2
Hampton	a201	-½
Hanson Tr	a205	-2
Hargreaves	101	
Harris Qwy	a172	-2
Har & C	a438	+2
Hartwells	94	-1
Hawker S	a427	-8
Hawtin	a18½	-½
Hpwth Cer	138	
Hewth Ord	a162	+2
Hestair	77	+2
Hewden S	38	+1
Bickling P	a48	
Hickson	473	+5
Higgs & H	285	-3
Hill & Sm	a70	
Hillards	330	
Hollas Gp	a22	
Hollis Bros	69	
Holt Lloyd	a91	-1
Home Charm	268	-2
Hopkinson	146	
Horizon Trvl	138	-5
Hse of Frs	316	-4
Hse of Lrs	227	
How'd Mac	9	
Hwden Grp	90	
Hutsock Jsn	275	
Illwth Mrs	58	-1
Illwth Mrs A	57	
ICI	884	+5
IMI	107	-2½
Imperial Gp	208	-2
Ingram H	90	
Initial	524	
Int Thom Org	612	-7
Jacksons	64	
J'son Clmt	a432	
Johnson FB	14	
J'son Mthy	70	-1
Johnston	177	+2
Jones & Sh	69	
Jones E	74	
Jones Strd	140	
Jourdan T	128	
Kalamazoo	31	-1
Kennedy B	283	-7
Kenning	a99	
Kwikfit	30	-3
Kwik Save	180	
LCP	115	-3
LRC Int	a115	-1
Ladbroke	281	-5
Ladies Pr	25	-1
Laing-'A'	196	-1
Laird Group	147	-1
Lake & Elt	78	
Lambt Hwth	200	
Laporte Ind	393	-3
Lawtex	61	+2
Lep Grp	248	-10
Lex Service	208	-7
Leyland Pt	34½	+1
Lilley FJC	65	
Linread	29	
Lister	52	-1½
Lloyd (FH)	51½	-½
Locker Thos	22½	
Logica	309	-3
Lon & Mid'd	181	-2
Ldn Nw C	78	
Lon Pk Htl	360	
Longton	a93	
Lonrho	171	-2
Lookers	87	
Lovell YJ	a214	-2
Low & Bonar	313	-3
Low (Wm)	573	
Lowe R H	25	
Lucas Inds	258	-1
MCD Grp	86	
MFI Furn	a210	-3
MK Elec	288	
MY Dart	27	+1
Macarthys	172	
McC'dale	a168	
Mackay (H)	80	
McKechnie	140	
Magnet S	a106	
Mgmt Ag	a152	-1
Mchstr Ship	298	
Manders	187	-2
Mang Br	53	
Manor Ntnl	13	
Marks & Spn	130	-2
Marley	90	-1
Marling Ind	62	
Marshalls H	a223	
Marsh'l (H)	73	+1
Ma-Black	Suspended	
Martin (A)	53	
Martonair	349	
Matthews B	304	+7
Maunders J	119	
May & Hassl	89	
McNords	255	
McAlpine A	264	-4
Mangles J	220	-3
Metal Box	413	-3
Metal Clos	151	
Metalrax	68	
Metamec	Suspended	
Meyer	116	-1
Miller S	20	
Milletts	118	
Ms Intl	43	-2
M & Allen	350	+2
Mitchell CT	81	-½
Molins	128	-3
Monk A	114	-1
More O'Fl	88	
Morgan Cr	195	
Moss Bros	325	
Mowlem	216	-2
Muirhead	168	-16
Myson Grp	71	
NSS News	96	
Neepsend	10½	-½
Neil & Spnr	47	-1
Neill J	128	+5
Newarthill	625	
Newman-T	a90	+1
Newmark	a215	
News Intl	600	
Nichols Vim	235	
Norcros	163	-3
North Eng	80	-2
N. Foods	a210	-2
Norton Opax	123	
Nova Kit	27	
Notts Manfg	218	-4
Nurdin & P	164	
Octopus Gp	875	
Office & El	158	
Ogilvy Mat	a£38 23/32	-3/16
Owen O	178	-2
Oxford Ins	a241	-4
Parker Kn 'A'	174	
Pktnd Text	101	
Paterson Z	130	
do 'A'	130	
Pauls & W	335	
Pearson (S)	671	-2
Peel Hldgs	308	+2
Peerless	a88	
Pegler-Httly	282	
Pentl'd Inds	425	-10
Pentos	35½	-½
Petbow Hold	50	
Philcom	38	+1
Phillips	£14½	
Phoenix Tmb	126	-2
Photo-Me	£10½	
Pifco Hlds	165	-5
Pilkington	298	-10
Pittard	96	+3
Planet Grp	72	
Platignum	81	-1
Plaxton's	75	
Pleasurama	406	-5
Plessey	184	-8
Plysu	218	-2
Pochins	190	
Portals	590	
Porter Chad	712	
Powell Duff	370	
Pratt Eng	a74	
Preedy	112	
Presac	110	-3
Priest (B)	81	
PoW Htls	110	-2
Pritchard	92½	-1½
Prop Rev	184	
Queens Most	52½	
Quick H & J	45	
Rea Hldgs	a373	-3
Racal Elect	a198	-8
Ramar Txt	24	
Rank Org	248	-4
Ranks Hov	127	-1
RHP	88	
Ransm S J	520	+5
Ratclf (FS)	58	
Raybeck	25	-1½
Readicut	26	-1½
Reckitt & Co	523	+8
Redfearn	a88	
Redland	258	-1
Redman Hn	Suspended	
Reed (A)-A	106	+1
Reed Exec	134	
Reed Int	544	-8
Renold	a47	
Rentokil	173	-2
Renwick	135	
Restmor	a111	-2
Reuters	373	
Rexmore	221	
RPD Grp	a87	-1
Rich Leics	38	+2
Rich West	19	
RMC Gp	350	-6
Roberts Adld	110	
Rbsn (Ths)	44	-2
Rock PLC	101	
Rockware	41	
Ropner H	135	
Rotaflex	168	
Rothmans In	180	+1
Rowlinson	32	
Rown Mack	373	-2
Ruberoid	218	-5
Rugby P C	127½	+1½
S & U Strs	20	-1
SGB Grp	164	
Saatchi C	880	-5
Sainsbury J	309	
Sale Tilney	494	
Samuel-A	78	
Sandhurst	82	-1
Sangers	a37	-1
Savile G	88	
Savoy 'A'	370	-3
Scapa Group	503	-10
Scholes	390	-10
SEET	a168	-2
Scotcros	Suspended	
Sears Hdgs	78	-2½
Securicor	240	-4
Securicor A	239	-1
Security S	240	-4
Sekers Intl	45	+4½
Selincourt	20½	-1
Senior Eng	23½	
Sharna	56	-4
Shaw Crt	32½	
Shiloh Spn	41	
Sidlaw	a158	-2
Silentnight	a38	
Simon Eng	244	-2
Sirdar	126	-4
Sketchley	380	
Smith DS	a126	-6
Smith Hlgs	44	+2
Smith&Neph	226	+1
Smith WH	a168	-4
Smith Inds	a177	
Smurfit (J)	151	
Sols' Law	41	+1
Sorry BW	80	
Spr & Jckn	146	-2
Spirax-Sarco	264	-2
Squirrel H	30	
Staff Potts	85	-1
Stag Furn	68	+1
Staids (R)	185	-1
STC	188	-4
Stanley AG	44	
Star Comp	40	
Staveley Ind	324	-2
Std Sim-A	a155	
Steel Bros	545	
Steetley	298	+2
Stoddard	73	-4
Stewart Pl	a89	+1
String Grp	a74	+2
Stocklake	143	
Stoth & Pitt	178	
Strong & F	134	
Sumner	9½	
Sunbeam Wol	60	+1
Sutcliffe	34	-2
TI Group	236	-6
TACE	a415	
Tarmac	a460	-2
Tate & Lyle	a468	-2
Tav Rstl	51	
Tlr Woodrow	358	-5
Telefusion	38	+2
Tele Rents	188	-3
Tesco	a226	-2
Text Jersey	a72	
Thorn	a434	-8
Thor Brdx	17	
Tomkins FH	a162	-3
Tootal	72½	
Tr Hotsmp	a72	-3
TZ Kns Nt	34	+1
Trafgr Hse	357	-2
Trans Dv	112	-1
Travis & A	260	-5
Trident 'A'	a243	
Trinity	258	
Triplex F	34	
Triefus	a147	-1
Turner & N	111	-1
Turriff	340	
UBM	143	
UKO Int	108	-3
Unigate	a147	
Unilever	£11 45/64	-3/64
Utd Bisc	205	-4
Utd Parcels	96	-4
Utd News	305	-5
Utd Scient	a198	-2
Utd Wire	123	
Valor	200	-2
Vantona	312	
VG Instrs	258	+2
Vibroplant	a140	
Vickers	240	-6
Vict Carpt	87	
Volex	129	
WGI	76	-2
Wadd J	575	+5
Wade Potts	110	
Wadkin	143	
Wagon Ind	a128	
Ward Hldgs	172	-5
Ward White	221	
Waring & G	118	
Waterford	49½	
Watts Blk	220	
Wedgwood	211	+3
Weir Group	51	-2
Wellman Eng	13	
Westland	117	-1
Wettern	66	
Whessoe	92	-2
Whitecroft	148	
W'sale Ftt	255	
Widney	a25½	
Wigfall (H)	71½	-2
Wilkes (J)	195	
Wilms Cliff	21	
Wilms Hldgs	200	+1
Wimpey G	100	
Wolsy-Hughs	301	
Wolst Bz	288	-3
Woodhead	25	
Wilse & Hz	27	
Woolworth	555	-11
Yks Chem	75	-2
Insurance		
Alexander	a£26½	+1
Britannic	645	
Comm Un	179	-3
Equity & L	213	-3
Genl Accdt	571	-4
GRE	626	-7
Heath C E	618	
Hogg Rob'sn	a261	-3
Legl & Gn	590	+2
Lon & Mcr	657	
Lon Utd	288	+1
Marsh & Mc	a£62½	+½
Minet Hldgs	265	-1
Pearl	£11[illegible]	-3/64
Prudential	520	-5
Refuge	295	-1
Royal	543	-10
Sedgwick	357	-1
S. Wrisen	589	+2
Sun Al & L	406	-5
Sun Life	734	-3
Trade Indmt	290	
Willis Fabr	611	
Windsor Sec	47	
Investment Trusts		
Alliance Trst	690	
Amr Tr	154	
AA Secs C	296	
Ashdown	a427	
Atlan AT	119	-1
Bankers In	a99	
Brit Amer	105	
Brit Assets	a213	
Brit IT	360	
City & Cml	35	
ConsVent	118	
Derby Inc	a100	
Derby Cap	101	-1
Drayton Japn	408	+1
Drayton Cons	294	
Drayton Prem	408	-4
Edin Am	284	-1
Electra	120	
Eng & Int	250	
F&C Pac	161	
F & C Allianc	93	
Family IT	202	
First Union	a180	
Fleming F.E.	324	-1
Fleming Mer	116	
Fleming Ovs	129	
Fleming Tech	180	
For & Col	140	-1
Fundinvest	41	
Fundinvest C	308	+2
Gen Funds	588	
Gen Stock	157	
Globe IT	274	-1
Hambros	180	
Hill (P) IT	252	-1
Inv In Suc	528	
Jove Cap	18½	
do Inc	83½	-1
Law Deb C	187	+3
Ldn, Gar	308	
Lon M Sec	68	-1
M & G Inc	a308	
M & G Cap	482	
Merchants	94	
Murray Inc	116	
do 'B'	112	
Murray Grth	95	
Murray Int	127	
Murray Sml	182	+1
do 'B'	177	-2
Murray Vent	283	
N'Thr Inc	37½	
N'Thr Cap	31½	
River & M	137	
Robeco	£18½	-¼
Rolinco	£17	+½
Scot Amer In	234	-1
Scot North	126	
Sec Alliance	592	
Shires IT	a240	
Smaller Cos	74	
Stockhldrs	145	
Tr Aust IT	94	-1
Tr Ind Gas	149	
Tr Tech IT	99	-1
Tr Tr Trustee	134	-1
Throgm Tr	a224	-1
Trnsat Inc	77½	
Trnsat Cap	72½	+2
Viking	79	
SA Mines		
AA Corp	$11½	-½
AA Gold	$77½	+½
Blyvoor GM	$7 11/16	-½
Bracken M	175c	-5
Buffs GM	$32½	-1
Doornfntn	$13½	-1
Driefontein	$23½	-½
E Rand Pr	367	-1
Fr St Ged	$20½	-½
Gencor	$11½	
GFSA	$12½	-½
Groot Prop	38½	-½
Harmony	$12½	-½
Hartebeest	455c	
Joburg C In	a$86	-3
Kloof GM	$34½	-½
Leslie GM	255c	-15
Loraine	290c	-28
Mid Wit W	89	-1
Pres Brand	$21½	-1½
Pres Steyn	$25	-1½
Randfontn	a$83½	-5
St Helena	$16	-1
SA Land	a238c	-5
Stilfnt GM	$8½	-1
Vaal Reefs	a$78	-4
Vent GM	$69	-2
Vlakfntn	145c	-5
Welkom	$5 11/16	-3/16
W Rand C	$4 9/16	-1/16
W Deep L	a$34½	-1
Wstrn Hgs	$27½	-1
Winkelhk	$27½	-2
Mining		
A-A for T	£39	-1
Ayer Hitm	280	
Br Hill Prp	a348	-5
CharterCon	201	
Cons Gold	502	-5
Cons Murch	£5	-1
De Beers Pr	£6½	
De Beers dfd	404	+2
Hmp GMA	a195	
M'lay T Dr	52	-1
Mims (Tr)	100	-8
MIMD (Mal)	16	
Minorco	716	-7
Nth B Hill	148	-3
Rio Tinto Z	647	-5
Tronoh Mns	275	
Vogels NT	a110	
W Mining Co	227	-9
Zinian Cpr In	17	
New Issues		
BT	123	-2
Jaguar	a328	-4
Osprey	78	
Our Price	363	
Robertson R	a237	-4
Oil		
Anvil Pet	50	-3
Brit-Borneo	325	
Bristol	24	-1
BP	560	-8
Britoil	216	
Burmah	220	+4
Century	75	
Charterhall	50	
C'house Pet	101	-1
Clyde Pet	91	
Enterprise	199	
Hunting Pt	132	+2
Imp C Gas	305	-3
LASMO Ops	510	
LASMO Ord	368	-5
Petrocon	100	
Premier Con	a47	-½
R'yl Dutch	£49 5/64	-35/64
Shell Trns	775	-5
Tricentrol	a198	+3
Ultramar	201	-4
Property		
Allied Londn	102	-2
Bellway	127	-1
Bilton (P)	220	
Bradford Pr	385	+5
Brit Land	132	-1
Brixton Est	125	-1
Cap & Cnt	196	-2
Cntrvl Est	200	-3
Chesterfield	420	
Connells Est	93	
Control Sec Is	a34	
Daejan	a230	
Est Prp Inv	a142	-1
Evans-Leeds	70	
Grt Port E	146	-2
Greycoat	202	-2
Hamsn-A	495	-5
Haslemere	492	-2
Laing Prop	290	-2
Land Sec	289	-4
Lyntan	305	
Marlborough	51	
MEPC	288	-6
Mountleigh	a280	
Mountview	a315	
Muckhw	77	-1
Peachey Pr	242	-1
Prop Hldg	117	
Prop Sec In	a127	-1
Raglan	81	
Rush & T	218	
Samuel Prop	148	-2
Scot Met P	65	
Slough Ests	126	-2
Sterling	65	-1
Stock Conv	a438	
Trafford Pk	215	
Utd Real	495	
Warnford	420	
Webb (J)	23	
Rubber		
Barlow Hlds	107	+1
Grnd Cent	10	-½
High & Low	86	-1
Shipping		
Br & Com	250	+10
Common Br	71	
Hunting G	85	
IOM Stm	125	
Jacobs (J)	57	
LDFS	22	
Ocean T & T	144	-3
P & O Dfd	348	-5
Reardon 'A'	51	
Runciman	77	
Tea & Coffee		
Camellia	£26	
Lawrie	£142	-1

a Ex dividend
b Offer assented
c Non assented
d Ex capital
e Ex rights
f Price adjusted
pp Part Paid

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Austria	25.10	Greece	149.00	Portugal	192.00
Belgium	72.00	Ireland	1.1650	Spain	197.00
Canada	1.48	Italy	2,225.00	Sweden	10.15
Denmark	12.92	Malta	0.56	Switzerland	3.02
France	11.00	Netherlands	4.07	USA	1.0775
Germany	3.58	Norway	10.30	Yugoslavia	285.00

STERLING RATES

	Closing Market Rates	Previous Closing Rates	FORWARD RATES (One month)
Australia	1.5230-1.5310	1.5210-1.5230	
Austria	25.60-25.68	25.43-25.47	15.75 to 14.62 groschen prem
Belgium	73.35-73.52	72.91-73.02	24c to 18c premium
Canada	1.4881-1.4989	1.4786-1.4821	0.48c to 0.43c premium
Denmark	13.05-13.08	13.00-13.02	4.25 to 3.25 ore premium
France	11.15-11.18	11.10-11.13	3.50c to 2.75c premium
Germany	3.6456-3.6511	3.6312-3.6362	2.50 to 2.25 pfennig prem
Greece	N/A	N/A	
Hong Kong	8.37-8.39	8.46-8.50	
Ireland	1.1703-1.1713	1.1682-1.1692	
Italy	2,272.49-2,278.91	2,253-2,261	2 lire prem to 1 lire dis
Japan	282.64-283.06	283.29-283.71	
Netherlands	4.13-4.14	4.11-4.12	2.50c to 2.12c premium
Norway	10.42-10.45	10.35-10.37	2 to 1.25 ore premium
Portugal	197.00-199.34	196.47-198.82	185 to 550 escudos discount
Spain	201.41-202.14	200.05-200.39	
Sweden	10.22-10.25	10.19-10.21	0.25 prem to 0.37 ore dis
Switzerland	3.07-3.08	3.05-3.06	2.25c to 1.87c premium
USA	1.0760-1.0770	1.0825-1.0835	0.45c to 0.43c premium

Dollar cross rates against: Swiss franc 2.85; French franc 10.36; DM 3.39; yen 263.05

INTEREST RATES

UK HIGH STREET %

Bank deposit : 8.5-9
Bank base rate : 14
Bank overdraft : 15-17
Building society mortgage : 12.5-13
Building society deposit : 7.75
Finance house rate : 10.5

UK MONEY MARKETS %

	7 day	1 month	3 months	6 months
Treasury bills	—	13½	13½	
Eligible Bills	—	13½	13 17/32	12 9/16
Interbank Rate	14½	14 3/16	14 3/16	13½
Discount Market	14			

INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKETS %

	1 month	3 months	6 months
Eurodollar	8½	9 7/16	9 13/16
Euro DM	5 13/16	6½	6½
Euro Fr fr	10 13/16	11 7/16	11½
Euro Sw fr	5 9/16	5 13/16	5 13/16

US INTEREST RATES: Federal Funds 8½ — US prime rates 10½

Getting up to artful dodges

Lindsay Cook on how to do yourself and the nation a good turn

YOU don't have to own a unique collection of Chippendale or the treasures of Chatsworth to be able to benefit from the tax concessions available to the owners of works of art.

Anyone who inherits a work of art — a painting, manuscript, furniture, china or glassware — which may be of national, artistic or scientific interest *may* be able to do a deal with the tax man.

And while the items should be pre-eminent in their field, they don't have to be worth a fortune. Museums, art galleries, and libraries, up and down the country acquire exhibits through a system which gives them a cheaper price than the open market, and also gives a tax advantage to the person making the sale.

To make such an arrangement, the first step is to approach a public collection and propose a figure for the market value of the work of art. In practice, people wanting to make a private treaty sale approach a dealer or an auction house, who make a valuation and contact one or more museums or galleries.

Museums are still governed by old-fashioned ethics and their staff do not like to haggle over prices, so they would never initiate proceedings by making an offer to someone wanting to sell an item. They may baulk at the price proposed by the dealer and then it might be reduced, but as *long as the right price can be struck*, this dealing at arm's length can be very advantageous to the seller because auctioneers do not usually charge their full commission rate of about 10 per cent plus VAT *but often take just two* and a half per cent for making the introduction between the two parties.

Private treaty sales are tax-free and the price given to the owner is based on the agreed valuation of the picture or object in the open market or at auction — although without going to the salerooms a seller can never be sure how favourable the valuation is.

The price the owner receives takes into account the tax exemption and divides this benefit between the museum or gallery and the owner, giving the seller an *amount equal to 25 per cent* of the tax due on the item. In this way someone selling an item worth £100,000, with a £60,000 capital transfer tax bill due on it, would receive £40,000 plus 25 per cent of the tax — £55,000 instead of the £40,000 they would be left with if they sold the item *through the salerooms* and paid the full tax on it.

The director of one museum stressed how important it was that they should be able to take advantage of these special deals. English furniture prices have doubled in the last year, because of the fall in the value of the pound, and are almost out of reach at the market price.

For an item to be sold by private treaty sale it is not only necessary for the museum or gallery to be willing to pay the price suggested by the dealer, but the deal must be approved by the Commission *on Museums and Galleries* and the Capital Taxes Office.

Owners of more spectacular specimens may be able to persuade the Office of Arts and Libraries and the Department of the Environment to accept them in lieu of tax, but the funds for the 1984-85 are now almost committed.

To have an item accepted in lieu of tax it must satisfy a test of "pre-eminence" either in the context of a national, local authority, or university collection, or through association with a particular building.

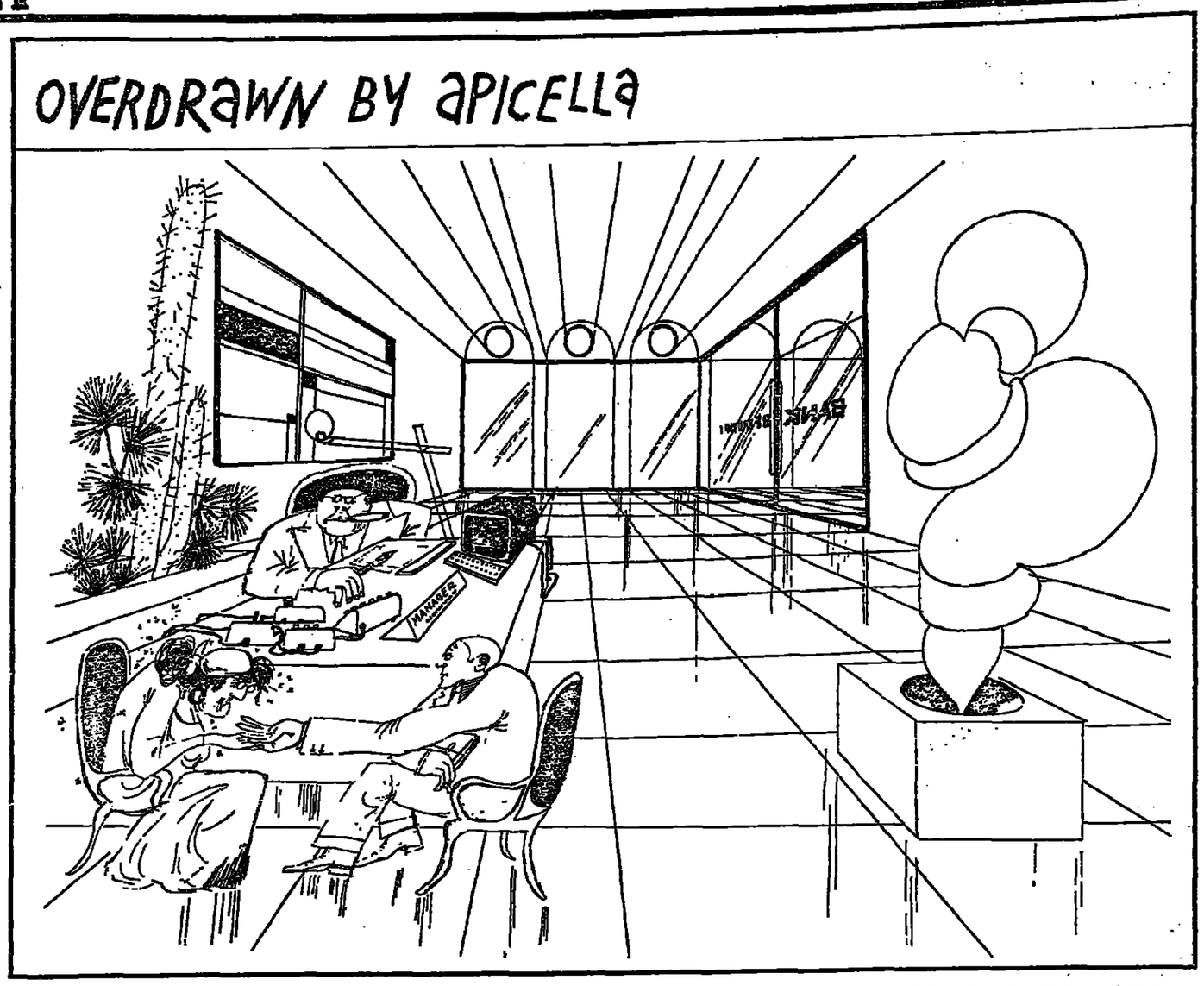
Offers are made to the Capital Taxes Office, but owners still have the option to negotiate a private treaty sale if the Government declines to take a work of art.

A conditional exemption from capital transfer tax can also be granted for "any pictures, prints, books, manuscripts, works of art, scientific collections or other things not yielding income which appear to the treasury to be *of national, scientific or* artistic interest."

To qualify, the item must be of sufficient quality to be displayed in a public collection, either national or local. The owner has to undertake *to keep the object perma*nently in the United Kingdom — except possibly for a temporary exhibition abroad — and must take reasonable steps to preserve the object and to secure public access *to it.*

The item stays in the family, even if it is on long-term exhibition or on display to the public on open days, and the conditional exemption from capital transfer tax continues as long as the undertakings are fulfilled. The exemption can also be passed to heirs, and the tax bill can be deferred indefinitely.

The system is undoubtedly *complicated and a basic* guide to Capital Taxation and the National Heritage is available from the Office of Arts and Libraries, Department of Education and Science, Elizabeth House, York Road, *London SE1 7PH.*



Not everyone who gets into debt is villainous, feckless, or downright irresponsible. In the light of this week's figures from the Building Societies Association, Margaret Dibben quotes a case in point, while Peter Rodgers finds room for discretion in the banks' handling of personal loan defaulters

A debt trap for the unwary

THE number of people who are behind with their mortgage payments has tripled since 1979. Figures put out by the Building Societies Association this week show that in the year to June 1984, no less than 33,000 building society borrowers are more than six months in arrears.

Falling into debt often catches people unawares and the underlying causes of the *increase in multiple debt* show no signs of fading: the recession, unemployment, low income, a sudden drop in income and the easy availability of credit.

This is how one family — we will call them the Daltons — were caught out.

Mr Ted Dalton went into partnership with his brother two and a half years ago. They bought a Wimpey fast food franchise and, through hard work, made a modest success of the business.

But then, just as business was picking up, the brothers suffered a devastating blow. Macdonalds opened a rival hamburger outlet just round the corner. The brothers could not compete with the brash American competition and pulled out.

They sold the business for £60,000 and Mr Ted Dalton *committed himself, without his brother, to buying a fish* and chip business. He expected £30,000 as his share of the Wimpey business and, on the strength of it, borrowed £30,000 from a finance company to tide him over until the money came through.

At this stage, Mr Dalton displayed his naivety in business matters, and was misled into believing that the fish and chip shop was in better *financial shape than it really* was. He saw accounts of the shop but did not show them to an accountant before committing himself. He did have a solicitor, but was very conscious of the cost every time he made contact, *so did not* involve the solicitor either.

The business was never as profitable as the books had led Mr Dalton to believe, but he ran it with the help of his wife hoping that, given time, they would be able to build up a reputation and do better.

Before that could happen, however, Mr Dalton fell ill, and became unable to work. His wife could not manage the shop on her own and their three children were still at school and could not help out. So they brought in a manager to *run the shop for* them but, after a year they were still not making enough money and they had to close the shop down.

By now Mr Dalton was in hospital and the family had no money coming in. The manager had gone, leaving yet more unpaid bills and more debts. And Mr Dalton discovered he was in breach of his contract with the landlord by closing the shop.

At this point Mr Dalton had to borrow more money from the finance company, who took a second mortgage on his house. A court order was served because he could not pay the landlord.

Last November, a bailiff came round and took possession of the shop. Mr Dalton, still in hospital, was told that if he did not pay £1,500 in rent arrears by December 6 he would lose the shop. The bailiff would take possession of the lease so he would not be able to sell the shop lease *and clear his debts.*

He found a buyer but, because the contact had been made privately rather than through the shop's agent, the agent blocked the sale. The shop was worth £30,000; Mr Dalton was offered £17,500.

By this time there was no money left in their bank account and the family were desperate. At this stage, *fortunately they went to a money* advice centre. Now, four months later, they have got rid of the shop for £17,000, but they have to sell the house they live in to pay off the finance company which is still adding interest charges at the rate of £400 a month.

The Daltons have become one more statistic in the repossession tables.

Softly, softly

ONE area where debtors who get into trouble meet widely varying treatment is in personal loans. Last week Yorkshire Bank highlighted the problem of what happens when a personal borrower gets into financial difficulty when it said that up to 11,000 striking miners had been let *off* payments since last February, with no penalties whatsoever.

On the face of it, this is excellent news for borrowers. Why should they not all get *the same treatment.* They could ring up the bank and tell the manager there is no money in the kitty, so he will not get paid any loan instalments for a few months, so there. There is no security on a personal loan that a bank can call in, as it can with a mortgage and often with an overdraft.

In fact, Yorkshire Bank, whose practice is similar to other banks, would normally go to court against a personal loan customer who ceases payment. General manager Mr Graham Sunderland emphasised that this is the *routine sanction. There is no* provision in a personal loan contract for penalty interest payments if instalments are delayed. Repayments are calculated in the first place by adding the total interest due over the period of the loan to the capital sum borrowed, and dividing the fixed sum by the number of months over which it is payable.

The drawback is that if a borrower *does get into* trouble, there is no half way measure between taking court action and doing nothing until the customer can eventually repay.

So clearly, there is plenty of room for discretion at the bank. In what are called "indulgence cases," where the customer would clearly like to repay but cannot, the practice seems to be to let the customer off. Mr Sunderland said there was no point in pursuing a debtor in default who could not pay because he had broken his leg.

The same logic applies to *the miners. Court actions* would be pointless because they have no income with which to pay. Yorkshire Bank's commercial judgment is that the miners will start repaying when they are back *at work, a faith which has* been borne out by the payments coming in from 1,000 or so miners who are now earning again. Mr Sunderland says that exactly the same practice was followed during the steel strike.

There could be a temptation for the banks to revise personal loan contracts to allow for penalties on late payment in hardship cases such as strikes, and no doubt the Prime Minister would approve of that. On the other hand there is already a very high interest rate premium on unsecured personal loans which is there in the first place to pay for the extra risks the banks are carrying.

Peter Rodgers

Smaller Unit Trust Group of the Year
SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

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Another face in the cupboard

Spurred on by the success of the Insurance Ombudsman, the banks are planning to create a new post of their own. Margareta Pagano reports

NEXT month the Insurance Ombudsman, Mr James Haswell, will reveal in the 1984 annual report that the number of complaints and inquiries brought by consumers has, as expected, again steadily increased.

What is more surprising is that he will also show that he has never yet had to resort to his binding powers of ordering an insurance company to pay out any amount up to £100,000 to an aggrieved customer. So far, since the ombudsman's bureau was set up in 1981, all his rulings on individual cases have been accepted by either the customer or the insurance company in question.

This smooth precedent will be music to the ears of the banking community which has just embarked on plans to create a new banking ombudsman post with powers to make awards up to £50,000.

The banks have closely modelled the office of ombudsman on the insurance industry's experience and are equally determined that the office will be genuinely independent with strong "teeth" which will work for the good of customers and so, for the banks.

The new banking ombudsman, who should be operating by the beginning of next year, will handle inquiries from all personal customers as defined under the Consumer Credit Act. This will include all partnerships, clubs, trade unions and charities and will be open to people using a banking service but not necessarily holding a bank account.

The banking ombudsman, like the insurance, will "conciliate, counsel or arbitrate" in cases where all normal grievance procedures have been exhausted at branch, regional and head office level. In fact, one of the sharpest observations from Mr Haswell's experience, which the banks may heed, is his adv e to insurance companies that they should always send the most senior official it can spare if difficulty with a customer is expected. "When done early enough this can save time, money and wasted effort," he said in last year's annual report.

While the banks loosely estimate that about 4 to 5 per cent of the 33 million clearing bank customers are unhappy enough to write to head office to complain they are unable to judge just how many complaints go unresolved. If Mr Haswell's experience can be a guide the IOB received 1,642 inquiries in 1983 about its member companies out of an estimated 3.8 million personal insurance claims. This was an increase of about a third on 1982 and a similar steady increase will be shown when the IOB reports on 1984 in March.

This increase is only to be expected due to greater consumer awareness of the IOB and the rise in the number of insurance companies which are included in the scheme. Since the original three insurance companies when the ombudsman was launched in 1981 the latest tally is 162 members — a rise of 12 companies over the last year.



"My diagnosis, Mr Prendlegast, is excessive withdrawal symptoms"

The most common types of cases which the IOB handles are non-disclosures on insurance policies, particularly on house contents, no claims discounts on all policies, and inquiries on the surrender and values of life insurances. These are all growing areas for complaint which the IOB believes may be related to the tougher economic climate that makes the public much sharper on what it can claim and more aware about its rights in seeing disputes through to the bitter end.

The effectiveness of the ombudsman is perhaps illustrated by the figures for 1983, when 527 policyholders had the original company decision revised — either by the chief executive of the company or by the ombudsman himself. Although the customer has the right to resort to the courts if they reject his verdict so far all the cases have been resolved.

When the National Consumer Council, through its working party in 1983, first recommended that the banks set up an ombudsman it suggested that his work should include building society customers. But both the banks and the building societies soon decided that their services and products differed so much that they would not happily fit together under one roof.

Mr Mark Boleat, deputy secretary-general of the Building Societies Association, said that the BSA had been operating its own informal complaints procedure for several years and did not believe there was any demand or pressure for an ombudsman role. The BSA receives about 100 complaints a year which, he said, are normally resolved by the society in question. The most popular complaints are about house insurance and the insistence by many societies that customers take insurance with certain companies. "If we believed there was any real need or pressure for an ombudsman then we would certainly look at it again," said Mr Boleat.

It is perhaps telling that the banks have gone further than the NCC's original advice by taking a leaf out of the insurance book and giving the ombudsman the powers to make the financial award of £50,000. The £100,000 limit for the IOB is higher to cover life insurance policies. While they believe it is right that he should have this power over a company they also stress — as does the NCC — that this should not in any way reduce the right of recourse to the courts.

So the banks have, very rightly, specified that if a member bank believes a matter of principle is at stake it can take the case to court but it should, in such a case, pay the complainant's costs.

Although the NCC generally believed that banking services are in the main satisfactory it recognises that most customers are too daunted to take banks to court and the ombudsman was seen as the best compromise.

As the banks have already pointed out the public's most common complaints against them are the mistakes made by cash machines. With the advances in technology in home banking and the coming of the electronic transfer of funds and electronic point of sales the scope for technological mistakes will be even greater so the timing of the ombudsman appointment is fitting.

Now all the banks have to do is find the top quality lawyer at the right price from the Temple to do the job — the thinking person's Esther Rantzen for the banking community.

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£ 8,000	£ 85·00	You can hold any amount from £2,000 up to £50,000 in multiples of £1,000. Each £1,000 of Income Bonds produces an average of £0·63 a month – £127·50 a year.	
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Man aged	Tax bracket	Annual net outlay	Gross pension from 65*
30	30%	£1,000	£145,863
30	40%	£1,000	£170,173

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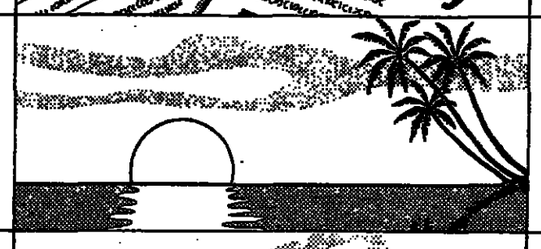
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	London Life	Typical Life office	
10	£3,398	£2,104	£1,294
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20	£10,555	£4,215	£6,340
25	£18,602	£5,959	£12,643

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Linda Lennard reviews the complexities of the invalidity benefit system and concludes that when in doubt, the best thing to do is claim

Lost in a labyrinth

THE social security system facing people with disabilities is still very complex because of the failure of successive governments to introduce a comprehensive disability income scheme. But it is well worth their while to find a way through the labyrinth — they may be missing out on benefits to which they are entitled as of right.

What are the criteria for obtaining the various benefits? In the main, the cause of disability is not a determining factor. The main exceptions are industrial injuries and war pensions which are compensation schemes. The former is available to employees who suffer injury or disablement through an accident arising out of, or in the course of, work, or who contracted a prescribed industrial disease. National insurance contributions do not matter — what counts is that the person is gainfully employed. Self-employed people are not eligible unless the accident happened while doing a specific form of voluntary work. The benefits available through the scheme include disablement benefit, special hardship allowance, and constant attendance allowance. The war pensions scheme covers people whose disability resulted from or was "aggravated" by military service in the first or second world war. There is a basic disablement pension plus extra allowances.

Apart from these schemes, entitlement to other social security benefits depends on a variety of criteria. Anyone unable to work because of sickness or disability will normally be entitled to statutory sick pay (SSP) paid through the employer for the first eight weeks off sick in a tax year. SSP is taxable and subject to deductions for national insurance contributions. Anyone still off work after eight weeks, can then go on to claim sickness benefit direct from the local DHSS office.

Some groups are excluded from SSP, e.g. people on short-term contracts. They — and others who are self-employed or unemployed — should claim sickness benefit straightaway. Sickness benefit is a tax-free contributory benefit — eligibility depends on the national insurance contribution record, as well as on medical evidence that the patient is incapable of work. To qualify for sickness benefit without the right contributions the patient must be incapable of work because of an industrial accident or disease.

Anyone who is still off work after 28 weeks, and has been paid sickness benefit (even at a reduced rate) can then claim full-rate invalidity benefit. This depends on continuing medical evidence of incapacity for work.

The basic rate for invalidity pension is £34.25 a week, plus £20.55 for an adult dependant, and £7.65 a week for each dependent child. Entitlement to an invalidity allowance depends on the age when the incapacity began e.g. £7.50 a week if it started before the age of 40. At present, there is also an additional earnings-related pension. Invalidity benefit is tax-free. Note that additions for adult and child dependants are determined by the level of a partner's earnings.

People who do not have the right contribution record to qualify for invalidity pension but have been incapable of work for at least 28 weeks, may be entitled to severe disablement allowance (SDA). This is a new benefit which replaced non-contributory invalidity pension (NCIP and HNCIP) last November. SDA is not means-tested or taxable. Claimants must be aged at least 16 and under State pension age (60 for women and 65 for men) before they can first be paid SDA. There is a residence condition — not only at present in Britain, but resident here for a total of 10 out of 20 years.

Nor is this the end of the qualifying conditions for SDA. Anyone who becomes incapable of work after the age of 20 must also meet a test of 80 per cent disability. Some groups are being "passported" automatically through the 80 per cent test — e.g. those receiving attendance or mobility allowance — others may have to go through a medical examination before getting SDA.

SDA is being phased in by age for new claimants (i.e. people who were not entitled to NCIP or HNCIP). Those aged 35 to 49 on November 29 1984 will have to wait until November 28, 1985, or their 50th birthday if that is earlier, before becoming eligible. So SDA has hardly simplified the system — on the contrary, it has imposed even more hurdles — but it is still worth claiming. The basic rate is £21.50 a week, plus £12.85 for an adult dependant, and £7.65 for each child (payable on top of child benefit). A full explanation of this complex benefit is given in the 1985 Disability Rights Handbook (a comprehensive guide to benefits and services for people with disabilities).

Two benefits — introduced in the 1970s — are also worth exploring for the severely disabled. Attendance allowance is a tax-free allowance for adults and children aged two or more, who are severely disabled either physically or mentally. They have to show that they have needed a lot of looking after for at least six months. It is payable at one of two rates: £28.60 a week for the people who satisfy the conditions for the day and the night; £19.10 a week for those who only satisfy the conditions for the day or the night. Note that people can qualify for attendance allowance if they are working or live alone — it is the need for attention or supervision that counts, not whether they are actually receiving all the help they need.

The other benefit is mobility allowance, payable to people aged 5 or over, and who have not reached their 66th birthday before claiming. To qualify, they must be unable to walk or virtually unable to walk, or the exertion required to walk would constitute a danger to life or be likely to lead to a serious deterioration in health. The walking difficulty must have a physical cause, but a person could also qualify if it is accepted that the mental handicap has a physical cause. Mobility allowance is £20 a week, tax-free. Neither attendance nor mobility allowance is means-tested, and both are ignored when working out entitlement to supplementary benefit.

In the absence of a comprehensive disability income, supplementary benefit is vitally important. Entitlement depends solely on the level of income and amount of savings — normally anyone with savings above £3,000 will not qualify.

Supplementary benefit can be paid on top of sickness and invalidity benefits. As well as the basic scale rates which are meant to cover normal living requirements, there are weekly additions payable for special expenses. Ten out of the 14 additions are paid on the basic of disability. They include amounts for heating, laundry, diet and baths. Some of the additions are based on actual costs e.g. for laundry, and private domestic help. Single payments can also be made in some circumstances for particular items.

The supplementary benefit system is under considerable threat as one of the areas currently under government review. It is highly likely that additional payments and single payments will be abolished in the near future under the guise of "simplifying the system," so the best advice is to claim now while they still exist. In fact, this applies to all social security benefits — if in doubt, claim!

The Disability Rights Handbook for 1985 is now available from the Disability Alliance E.R.A., 25 Denmark Street, London WC2 8NJ, price £2.20 postfree.

Also see DHSS leaflet NI. 146 — a complete list of all DHSS leaflets and order form, available free from your local DHSS office.

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Managers Schroder Unit Trust Managers Limited (Members of the Unit Trust Association), Regal House, 14 James St., London WC2E 8BT. Regd Office 120 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DS England No 1531522
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Sharing out a joint account

YOUR MONEY LETTERS

answered by Margaret Dibben

MY Father is 90 years old and a widower. He wants me to be made a joint holder of his building society account so that his total investment can go above the £30,000 limit. The problem is that as an executor when my father dies, I shall be paying out to the other three beneficiaries from a joint account. Can the Inland Revenue regard these payments as gifts? — L. W., Leicester.

IN the event of your father's death, the balance of your joint account would be transferred to your name. You would then be allowed a short period in which to reduce it to the £30,000 limit permitted for individual account holders. The money in the account would then belong to you, so your father would have to rely on you to carry out his wishes with regard to the other beneficiaries. Any gifts made by you would be chargeable for CTT purposes, though amounts up to £64,000 attract a nil rate of tax. If you died within ten years of making the gifts, they would count as part of any CTT assessment against your estate.

Support plan

MY son is a mature student. His problem is that he has been running into debt because his grant of £2,000 a year is not enough for him to live on. So I have been thinking of transferring £3,200 from my building society to the National Savings Monthly Income Bond and let him have the interest in full. In March I shall be 65 and will receive the state pension only, plus about £1,700 a year interest free from savings. — G.J., Clacton.

YOU have an unenviable problem, on which it is very hard to advise, but I would not recommend your suggested solution, as it seems calculated to incur tax twice on the same money: you would be liable for tax on your interest from the income bond, and your son may well be liable also on the regular payments you make to him. It sounds as if you yourself can ill afford to forego income, and paying tax without any associated benefit would be very inefficient. If you really must, give your son part or all of the money to help him out, but it may be better to explore the possibility of his finding holiday jobs to supplement his grant.

Maintenance

I AM living with a man to whom I am not married but I am expecting his child. Would there be any tax advantage in taking out a court order for maintenance? — R. M., Luton.

YES, there would. On the assumption that you have no income in your own right any maintenance payments paid under court order by the father of your child would be tax deductible for him and (up to £2,005) tax free in your hands. If the payments exceed £148 per month they would have to be paid net of basic rate tax and you would have to claim a tax rebate.

An even better solution would be for the father to pay maintenance direct to the child under a court order since this would enable the child's personal allowance to be used. At the same time he could take out a deed of covenant to you which, if you have no income, could be covered by your personal allowance.

Half a house

I AM selling my house (bought 1/4/64 for £5,200) for £108,000. I estimate that agents' and solicitors' costs will amount to approximately £1,000 leaving £104,000 net. For several years I have let half furnished. I am concerned about capital gains. I assume that I shall be liable for half of £104,000, ie £52,000 less £5,200 (original cost) and approximately £5,600 allowed tax free profit. This leaves net tax liability (at 30%) of approximately £12,360. I am nearly 75 years of age and propose retiring from letting furnished accommodation. Is there any way I can avoid capital gains in whole or part? — R. J. W., London SW4.

WHAT you cannot do is claim "retirement relief" since this only applies to disposals of a business (which your letting does not constitute) or shares in a family company. But what you can do is obtain exemption on all of the gain except the part that accrued during the letting period on the half of the property that was let on the basis that the house was your main private residence throughout the period of ownership. You can further exempt the gain on the letting part of the property up to a maximum of £20,000 (S.80 FA80 as amended). On the information given you will probably have to pay no CGT at all.

Charity money

I AM treasurer of a small hostel with charitable status. At present we have about £4,000 in a bank deposit account and £600 in a current account. We pay no tax. What will be our position after April 1985 and if we are to pay tax automatically where should I invest the deposit money bearing in mind that we do have pretty large fluctuations in outgoings and income? — N.H.A., Preston.

THE change in the rules for bank deposit interest mean that from April 6, 1985 such interest will be paid net and although the taxpayer can claim the corresponding tax credit this credit will not be available as a repayment. This puts bank deposit interest on the same terms as building society interest.

Fortunately, though, the new rules only apply to individuals. Companies and other corporate bodies, such as clubs and charities, will continue to receive bank interest gross and be assessed under Schedule D Case III. You should therefore deposit your charity's money wherever you can get the best gross return with the flexibility you require to make payments.



"Good morning. How much will it cost me if I open an account with you?"

Tax returns

UNTIL recently I was employed in the health service paying income tax under PAYE. At present I am self employed. Should I notify my Inspector of Taxes or should I wait until they "catch up with me?" If I don't notify him can I be penalised financially?

Secondly, I may wish to return to university to study although I will still require to work part-time to support myself. Would I be entitled to any rebate? — P. H. Mc., Holywood, N.I.

EVERY taxpayer has the duty to make an annual return to the Inland Revenue of his or her income. The penalties for failure to make a full disclosure range from £50 to £500 plus the unpaid tax (or twice that amount if the offence is through fraud or neglect) together with interest at 8 per cent per annum. Not only should you notify the Revenue, but you would also be well advised to make provision for the tax liability you incur as a self-employed taxpayer.

When you return to university and work part-time there is no particular tax relief to which you are entitled, but you may get a tax rebate if your previous earnings have not used up your personal allowance for the year.

Sterling worth

We are emigrating to Canada soon and wish to take our savings of £20,000 with us. However, the pound has fallen so badly in the past year, we feel this may be an inappropriate time to convert into another currency. Would you advise us to change our money now before it gets worse, or to keep it in sterling until a more attractive rate prevails? — G. B., Yarmouth.

IT can't get much worse, I hope, and would agree with your instinct to hang on to your sterling for the time being. I would suggest you put your money into an offshore fund. There are many of these managed from the Channel Islands, offering a wide range of investments and denominated in various different currencies. Many publish prices daily in the Financial Times.

Claiming relief

I HAVE recently got divorced and have agreed with my ex-wife to pay her a lump sum payment of £3,000 and maintenance of £60 per month for our 10-year-old daughter. We are both standard rate taxpayers and I had originally intended that I should not claim tax relief on this money and then my wife would not need to declare it as taxable income. My solicitor has suggested, however, that as the income is my daughter's I can claim tax relief for the maintenance payments and my ex-wife would not need to pay tax on it as my daughter would be allowed the single person's personal allowance for her income. Is this correct and, if so, does the same apply to the lump sum payment? — M.W., Rhyl.

YOUR solicitor is right. If the £60 per month is paid directly to your daughter under a court order you will be able to claim tax relief on the payment and neither your daughter nor your ex-wife will be liable to income tax on the receipt. However, the lump sum payment does not fall under income tax — it may be better to persuade your ex-wife to accept increased monthly payments in place of the lump sum.

WHILE every effort is made to ensure accuracy in our replies, we cannot accept responsibility for any error that might inadvertently appear. We are unable to enter into correspondence personally, so no SAEs, please.

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At 9am on Thursday 13th June 1985 we'll prove, conclusively, that it is still possible to double your money in just six weeks by investing in penny shares.

THE EXPERTS' EXPERT

Stockmarket Confidential (or SMC for short) is a rather insuspicious looking news sheet which is sent, by first class post, every Wednesday evening.

Despite its innocuous appearance it is eagerly read on Thursday morning by a handful of investors up and down the country.

Some of these investors will be professional stockbrokers, heads of industry and other leading financial experts. Between them they may control, literally, millions of pounds.

Others will be smaller, private investors sometimes with as little as £500 or £1,000 with which to speculate.

But what every reader of Stockmarket Confidential has in common is the desire to discover what is likely to happen on the stock market that coming week.

Bluntly, they want to know which shares are going to go up, and which shares are going to come down. And they want to know why.

THE SECRET OF INVESTMENT SUCCESS

The only way to make money on the stock market is to have reliable advice and the ability to move fast, before the word gets around and prices rocket.

In Stockmarket Confidential we make buying and selling recommendations, offer sound investment analysis and, most important of all, suggest one or more "Hot Tips" for the week.

If you haven't acted on our "Hot Tips" by Thursday lunchtime you've missed the boat – other SMC subscribers will have already pushed prices up.

You'll discover that very often the best investments are the "penny shares"... Samson Exploration, for instance, which rocketed from 12p to 52p in just 42 days... Bellair Cosmetics from 22p to £10.50... Dollands Photographic from 27p to £3.23... just three examples from a long list of recently successful "penny shares."

WHY YOU CAN ACT WITH SUCH CONFIDENCE

Each week the editor of SMC chairs a private meeting of the SMC Board of Advisors. Together these financial specialists pool information, validate sources, and discuss the latest City whispers. At the end of the meeting they will have chosen the three hottest tips and decided whether or not to sell shares previously recommended.

We guarantee that none of these tips will be leaked by the SMC Editorial Board, or published, except in SMC.

HOW WE WILL PROVE THE SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE

As we've already explained, we believe it is still regularly possible to double your money in as little as six weeks by trading in penny shares.

In order to prove it we will enter your name in our next Free Prize Draw which takes place on 30th April 1985, all you need to do is complete and return the coupon below.

If you win, you'll receive £500 to spend or invest as you please.

We'd suggest that you invest it in any one of our "Hot Tips" for that week. Because if you do, and your £500 of shares aren't worth £1,000 by 13th June 1985, we'll make up the difference in cash.

That's right, we're so confident that our advice is sound we believe that £500 will be worth £1,000 in just six weeks!

Everyone is welcome to enter this Free Prize Draw. No purchase is necessary. Full rules on request.

PROFIT RECORD SINCE 3rd OCTOBER 1984

It's all very well knowing what to buy – the real secret is knowing what to sell. This is our full "sell" record since the 3rd October 1984.

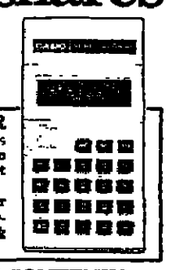
Share tipped:	Bought for:	Sold for:	*% Gain:
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Link House	235p	765p	217%
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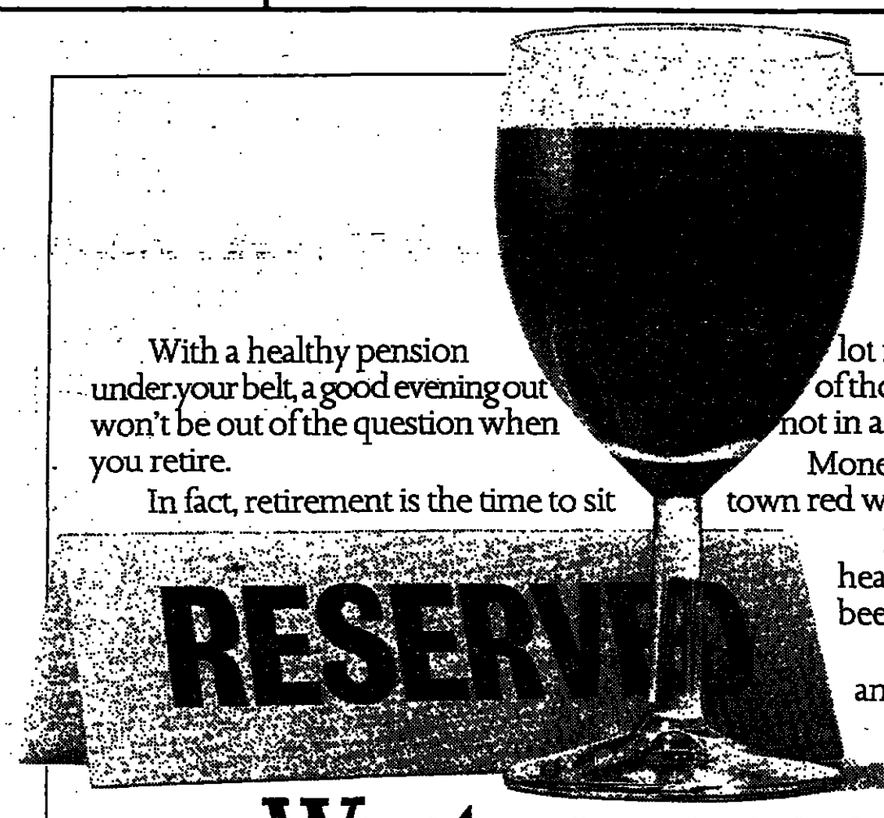
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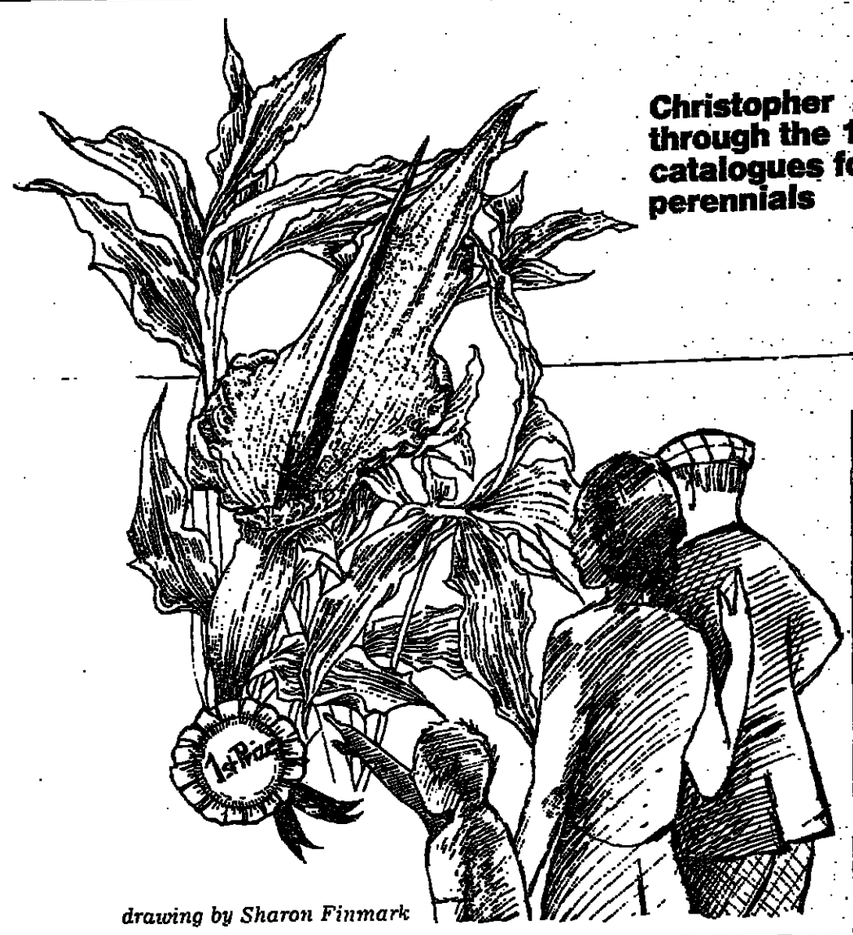
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Some seed some smell

Christopher Lloyd looks through the 1985 seed catalogues for interesting perennials



drawing by Sharon Finmark

TO STOCK a garden entirely with plants that you had raised from seed would require a self-denying ordinance, and I have never heard of anyone attempting it. But there is no doubt it could be a brilliant success and no need to rely on ephemeral displays by annuals and biennials.

Here follow notes on some of the perennials that my eye has lighted upon while scanning through this season's seed lists. Most of them are from Thompson & Morgan's catalogue (London Road, Ipswich), as theirs is by far the most extended and wide ranging, but Chiltern Seeds (Bortree Stile, Ulverston, Cumbria) are enterprising, too, and their comments on each item make excellent reading.

It is they who offer Euphorbia wallichii, which is a stout, many-stemmed perennial up to 3ft. high. Anyone who has visited the Gulmarg area in Kashmir will remember this splendid plant in July, often associated with a relation of the royal fern, Osmunda claytoniana. Cattle and sheep ignore it — a major survival factor there, and perhaps even here if you live next to a farm. I can't imagine it being rabbit's relish either. Cool lime green inflorescences and stem leaves clearly picked out with whitened central veins.

The American butterfly weed, Asclepias tuberosa, can be had from Chiltern, T & M, and Thomas Butcher (Shirley, Croydon, Surrey). It is an unusual perennial, 2ft. tall with heads of intriguingly shaped flowers in late summer, in shades of orange. Really it gives of its best where the summers are hotter than ours, but it has been excellent with me these last two years and even ripened seed last autumn. Seedlings will flower in their second year. I like to get them potted individually in their first. T & M also offer a hybrid strain called Gay Butterflies in which there is greater variation in colour. From my sowing of this last spring, I only germinated one seedling, so I am trying again this year.

There are many out-of-the way poppies which one seldom meets and they all contribute that gladdening freshness which is the poppy's hallmark. Papaver heldreichii (offered by T. & M. as P. spicatum) is a 2ft. perennial with pale silky foliage. Its long spikes of apricot coloured flowers set close against the stem, open successionally in early summer over quite an extended period. It will flower the second year and carry on from there.

If Kniphofia uvaria Nobilis is the genuine article, it will grow to 7ft. or 8ft. in good soil and an open position, rather than the 4ft suggested in its catalogue description. This is a tremendously imposing red hot poker for late summer flowering; I mentioned it last month.

Among spring-flowering perennials I noted Thermopsis caroliniana, which I have been growing for the past four years. It has spikes of pale yellow pea flowers in May. So many perennials (think of all those daisies) are bright yellow, that the soft colouring comes as a relief. Not much more than 2½ft. tall, I grow it with Jacob's ladders (Polemonium), which are blue or mauve.

Then there is a curious member of the saxifrage family, Lithophragma parviflorum, which I had seen only at Kew until I grew it myself. For most of the year you don't see the plant at all; its roots are tiny tubers and it behaves like a spring flowering bulb, its lacy leaves first appearing about now. Slender upright stems rise to 15in. and carry panicles of very pale pink flowers in which each petal is deeply notched.

True bulbs can often be raised from seed: for instance Allium murrayanum with heads of clear pink flowers on foot-tall stems in May. This is a clump former that dies off early so you can grow spreading perennials like the July to October flowering cranesbill (propagated only from seed). Geranium wallichianum Buxton's Blue, as a neighbour that will take over. Allium giganteum is quite an expensive bulb to buy, so even if it takes several years to flower from seed it is worth the effort; lilac-coloured globes on 5ft stems at midsummer. It is imposing but should be sited behind lower, bushier plants as its own leaves die off early.

If you can buy the bulbs of Tulipa sprengeri at all, they are madly expensive, but so good from seed, and once established in your garden, they will (unless you are an over-busy gardener) sow themselves into patches of irises and other sedentary perennials. This elegant two-footer with terracotta flowers is the latest of all tulips in bloom, usually running on into June.

Eucomis bicolor Pink Hybrids is recommended for house or greenhouse but I shouldn't hesitate to recommend it for a sunny, reasonably sheltered border where it will bloom in summer with stout spikes of starry flowers that are excitingly different. I wonder how mine have come through this winter. I believe the snow layer will have saved them from the worst January frosts.

The shocking Dracunculus vulgaris can be raised from seed. This, the dragon arum, has tubers from which spotted stems rise like snakes from the bare earth in April. Its large, reddish-purple arum flowers open in July and smell of putrid meat. It is pollinated by bluebottles. Guaranteed to cause a sensation at your local summer flower show.

Turning to a sweeter scent, lavenders for hedge planting are normally raised from cuttings but they come well from seed. You must not, however, expect every bush to be of exactly the same habit as its neighbour. Hidcote and Munstead are listed. They shouldn't be so named unless raised vegetatively, but they will come pretty close to the original and the purple Hidcote is much to be preferred, having a longer flowering season.

Lastly a parasite. This is something of a challenge to your patience as results are not to be expected for the first three or four years; you will have to find something else to think about in the interval. Lathraea clandestina parasitises the roots of trees, notably willows, but if suited it will move on from these to the roots of other genera. Mine seems to have taken a shine on the roots of the yew hedging behind a clump of pollarded willows where I started it. The hooded flowers appear in clusters close to the ground from early March to May and are bright aniline purple in colouring, rather like crocuses at a distance. You can see masses of them along the Backs at Cambridge. There are no leaves and no noticeably harmful effects on the host tree or on its owner.

Odd jobbing

IF it is not already done, all pots and seed trays must be cleaned before the busy season. There is nothing more disappointing than carefully sowing and nurturing seeds only to see young hopefuls struck down in ever-increasing swathes by the dreaded damping off fungi. Sometimes, affected seedlings do not even emerge above the compost. More often, circular patches of seedlings topple over as their stems or roots become rotted. Infected plants should be removed and destroyed immediately.

There is no cure, so the only treatment is preventative: using disinfectant to wash all used plant containers (whether infected or not) and ensuring that conditions are conducive to rapid, healthy growth.

Although most half-hardy annuals are sown under glass in March and April, begonia, antirrhinum, and lobelia can all be started off now. The aim is to sow seeds evenly and not too thickly on to a firm (not compacted) level seed compost. The smallest seeds need no covering at all; others should have a light sprinkling of compost. A fine rose is needed for watering and then the seed can be stowed away in a warm place (about 20deg. C. for most seeds). They need protection from desiccation: a polythene or film cover and shading from the sun. When the daily inspection reveals 50 per cent germination, the seedlings should be brought out into the light.

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PERSONAL CONTINUES ON PAGE 29

THE PROPERTY PAGE



Pointers to the future"

Funds available for mortgages are being swelled by American money, says Tim Roberts

For a few dollars more

GO WEST, young owner occupier! That seems to be the advice to anyone thinking of taking out a mortgage. Over the past year or so a welter of United States banks as well as their financial subsidiaries, have been scrutinising the domestic United Kingdom mortgage scene, and have decided that they want an increasing role in the provision of mortgage finance in this country.

Some of the biggest US institutions such as Citibank — arguably the biggest commercial bank in the world — Bank of America; Chemical Bank have all opted for a substantial slice of the mortgage market in the UK, while other US institutions such as Commercial Credit and Security Pacific and Canada Permanent Trust Co., Ltd., are also muscling in on the once exclusive preserve of the UK building societies.

But are these johnny-come-latelys to the UK home buying scene a force to be reckoned with? What do they offer that the mortgage borrower cannot get from a welter of established UK financial institutions, which are bursting at the seams with mortgage money? And why are they interested in the UK market anyway?

Interest has been generated in the UK home loan business by the increasing trend to more market geared interest rates charged for home loans.

The ending of the building societies' cartel 18 months ago led directly to a more commercial attitude towards lending. The societies first priority is not limiting lending and keeping interest rates low, but meeting mortgage demand and letting interest rates find their own level.

As we have seen in the latest round of interest rate increases, the major societies at least, were not slow to increase their rates as bank rates went up.

The attraction, then, for any lender to the domestic mortgage market is the high rates of interest which currently prevail and the "safe houses" nature of the investment they are making. Defaults on mortgage lending overall have been calculated at less than one tenth of one per cent for the first half of 1984 according to figures based on 82 per cent of building society lending.

Other factors which have whetted the appetite of US lenders are the strong dollar in relation to the pound, with little risk that the pound is going to recover substantially in the short term, and the high level of real interest rates in the UK, which are at a record level of nearly 9 per cent after taking into account inflation.

But while the interest from the US is definitely there, does the level of lending they indulge in count for anything more than a gnat bite compared to the domestic lending of the building societies? Are they just indulging in a short term exercise to take advantage of favourable market conditions, or do they really mean business? After all the high street banks cut back their mortgage lending to the bone after interest rates fell in 1982 in spite of their protestations that they are in the mortgage market for good.

The major US institutions say they intend to commit themselves, at least for the 25 year term of the mortgage lending they are making. But it is not the commitment but the American know-how which makes the fact that the Yanks are coming so significant.

BankAmerica, for example, markets the mortgages and makes sure that the debt is repaid by the mortgage borrower, but the actual lender of the money is a separate financial institution which is borrowing the cash from the international money markets and lending it on to house buyers through Bank America.

This is known as a secondary mortgage market and is well known in the US. Such markets are in their infancy in this country, mainly due to restrictions imposed by the Government on the type of lending that building societies can engage in. Recent technical changes mean that building societies can act more as agents doing all the administrative work in servicing the mortgage loan without having to carry the debt themselves.

This is an important development in the UK mortgage scene, and the chairman of the Halifax Building Society, the biggest house finance institution in the world, pointed out that the society is not planning a further large increase in its mortgage lending in the current year.

"The savings inflow we would require would be so high as perhaps to push up interest rates to an unacceptably high level." He said that his society's demand for savings was greater than that of the Government's Department of National Savings, and that decisions on how much the Halifax wants to borrow in the course of a year have direct consequences for the economy in general.

But as the Building Societies Association points out, the level of demand for mortgage finance is expected to increase to £100 billions a year by the turn of the century, while societies will require net receipts of more than £40 billions a year to finance that demand. US lenders could have an increasingly important role to play in satisfying that demand.

At present there is little to choose between a domestic and an American mortgage lender in terms of the deals offered. Interest rates, earnings multiples, percentage of valuation offered, differential rates for larger loans, are all on a par with societies and UK banks, although there are, of course, differences between lenders.

Security Pacific, for example, has an inverted differential structure, charging higher rates for smaller loans.

The attraction of the US lender is not the terms on offer but could be the enthusiasm they have for getting a foothold in the lucrative UK market.

In the longer term, we may be thankful for the American interest if, as seems likely, the level of demand for mortgage finance outstrips even the vast resources of the Halifax Building Society. We are reaching the limits of a system in which personal savings can provide mortgages

How improving homes could stop the rot

"STOP the rot of our ageing homes, create jobs, and make a positive contribution to the country's economic recovery while at the same time benefiting the community at large," is the plea from the National Home Improvement Council in a resolution sent to Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction.

The resolution calls on the Minister and the Government to review their proposals to cut back local authority expenditure, to take the fullest consultation before amending the home improvement grant system and to take note of the "opportunities being missed" by not investing in the housing stock. It arises from a special meeting of the NHIC to commend the council's discussion document, Improving Our Homes.

The paper makes several proposals, including: an increase in public expenditure on housing; the removal of VAT on repairs; tax relief on loans for repairs, as well as improvements; a reform of the rating system; the phased de-control of rents in the private sector; a Government backed Warranty Scheme for builders; and a "more adventurous approach to area improvement."

The paper points out that United Kingdom expenditure on housing construction as a percentage of GDP is the lowest in the EEC. It says that cuts have fallen more heavily on housing than on any other item of public expenditure.

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EXTREMELY Attractive individual style 4-bed DETACHED House; 2 garages, large lounge, leaded lights, Claygate fireplace, dining-room, study, fully tiled bathroom downstrs cloaks, gf ch; cavity filled walls, double glazed, large beautiful gardens; 12ft high wall at rear garden, trees, shrubs, lawns, close Heathrow Airport, M25/M40, excellent decor throughout; £120,000 ono. Tel 0895 34730.

NW10. KENSAL RISE. Spacious and bright 2-bed first floor Flat in recently converted end of terrace house. Large lounge / diner, gas central heating, good transport to West End and City, 96-year lease. £37,000 to include carpets. 01-969 5795 or 01-399 5998.

BLACKHEATH: £40,000. Architect's ground floor Flat in purpose-built block. 2 double bedrooms, lounge / dining room 5m x 4m, new fitted kitchen, gas central heating with new boiler, flue & hot water tank, communal gardens; garage. 01-318 7534.

AMERSHAM, Bucks. Lge double-fltd SEMI, quiet location, 3 dble beds, separate lounge/dining-rm, lge garden, garage; many extras, low outgoings, 10 mins walk LT/BR station, close M25: £65,000 Tel 01-634 6524 (office).

CHIGWELL. DETCHAED Bungalow: 3 bedrooms, fitted kitchen, gas heating, garage, large garden, quiet location, convenient buses and Central Line; offers around £76,000 for immediate vacant possession. Tel 01-500 6897 or 04626 77090.

HACKNEY: 2 bedrm Flat nr Victoria Park, off Well St. Bethnal Green Tube. 15 mins excellent buses. Ground floor, gas cent htg, hot water Ascot; vacant at present: RV £298. Service charge £240 pa. leasehold 46 years plus option for further 40 years. Price £21,000 includes curtains, carpets, cooker. Tel Janet Moir any time 061-797 6156.

HAMPSTEAD, NW3: Attractive Second Floor Conversion, bedroom, living room, kitchen and bathroom, plus smaller second bedroom/study, gas heating, use of large garden, low outgoings, 68-year lease, £55,000 or close offer for quick sale. Tel: 435 8207.

DELIGHTFUL FIRST FLOOR P/Built Two-Bedroomed Maisonette with south facing garden, new double glazed windows fitted throughout, extensively modernised with newly fitted kitchen and bathroom, quiet road five minutes walk Twickenham Station, 85-years unexpired lease: £40,500 (to inc. fitted matching carpets throughout). Tel.: 891 0453.

WINDSOR: A Modern Family House set in its own grounds with excellent views across the Great Park; drawing room, dining area, kitchen/breakfast room, cloakroom, study, utility room, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, gas-fired central heating. Indoor swimming pool complex, gardens and grounds of about ¾ acre; offers are invited for the leasehold with 91 years unexpired in the region of £215,000. Tel.: Mr R Watts on 0628 75221 office hours, 07535 58544 evenings and weekends.

GOLDERS GREEN. Quiet area close to shops, bus and Tube station. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 wc's, 2 box rooms, reception, study, dining / conservatory, fitted kitchen, gas c/h throughout, completely renovated inside and outside; loft insulated; 65ft rear, 30ft front garden, carpets, curtains, ready to move into. £149,500 ono. Tel 01-458 3360 evenings / weekends.

CHARLTON. 1930 Semi, 3 beds (2 double), 2 large reception rooms, rewired, re-plumbed, mainly double glazed, modernised half tiled bathroom with shower, full g c/h, patio doors to patio and 100ft mature secluded garden south facing, new greenhouse and shed; car parking space; close shops, schools, parks, public transport. Price £56,000 including carpets. 01-856 4115.

CROUCH END, N8. 2nd floor conversion, 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bathroom with wc and shower; access to flat roof; gas central heating, fitted carpets; close to Broadway, attractive view. £36,000. Tel. 01-348 9548.

WANDSWORTH COMMON. Two-year-old Corner House comprising: Lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, central heating, fitted carpets throughout; well insulated; low maintenance; secluded 40ft well stocked garden, shed, brick barbecue; off street parking for 2 cars; commuters only 10 mins Tube / BR. £34,500. Phone Mr Mason, 01-250 2396 day, 01-767 5685 evgs.

WIMBLEDON. Modern 2-bedrm 2nd floor Flat in small purpose-built block, 89-year lease, small outgoings, c/h; car port; recently redecorated; lovely view; close to station & Common. £52,000. 01-693 4428.

BEDFORD. Three-bedroom Detached. Ent hall, lounge, kitchen / diner, 3 beds, garage; open view at rear; full gas rad c/h, cavity wall insulation and secondary double glazing throughout; 10 mins main line station to St Pancras. £42,950. Ring 0234 42139 or 0234 855212.

WALTON-ON-THAMES, Surrey. 3-bed SEMI plus converted loft, new fitted kitchen and carpets, car space, garden, quick sale needed: £46,950. 0932 229643.

LONDON, N 16. Purpose built FLAT, close to all transport. Two double bedrooms, large lounge, good size kitchen, bathroom / toilet. £35,950. Tel 01-954 4534.

BROMLEY SOUTH: very close to shops and station; frequent fast trains to Victoria, 17 minutes. Light spacious 2-bedroom FLAT, built-in wardrobes, fitted kitchen, 19ft lounge, bathroom, lovely view; £37,500. Tel 01-440 8941 or 01-421 2129 evgs only.

LIVE LIKE RUMPOLE! Hackney / Hackney Downs. Spacious 3-bed Edwardian Mansion FLAT on 1st floor in PB Block, period features, low service charges, close Hackney Downs BR station (9 mins Liverpool St). £29,950. 01-985 7250 evgs and weekends.

SUPERIOR TOWN HOUSE: 5 minutes walk from Wimbledon Centre and station, both village and common within easy reach, in excellent order, including lounge, dining room, 4 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, 2 cloakrooms, modern kitchen, gas central heating, garage, car port and terraced garden with patio, freehold. £120,000. Rateable value £576. 01-947 6810, evgs 947 5525.

COMFORTABLE DETACHED Family House in Sevenoaks for sale. Four bedrooms, three reception, garage, large garden, gas c/h. £115,000. Sevenoaks 451679

NORTH WEST ENGLAND

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ATTRACTIVE EARLY 18TH C. MODERNISED
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WESTERN FRINGES OF LAKE DISTRICT
(Ennerdale Water 7 miles)
Delightful modern 3 bedroom bungalow of character and charm in 1½ acre garden in peaceful open woodland. Large through lounge, fitted kitchen, fitted bathroom plus shower. Full oil fired central heating, double glazing, double garage. Easy to manage, ideal retirement home
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20 mins. — HALIFAX
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150 yr old converted weavers cottages with open views to wooded valley. 3 double beds, pine-cladded bathroom with w.c. large dining/kitchen, living room with log burning stove, utility room, large lounge gallery, internal natural stone walls, original beams. Detached garage c.h. small garden
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BURY, GREATER MANCHESTER. Luxury 1-bedroomed ground floor FLAT, overlooking fishing lodge, hall, security phone, living room, kitchen, bathroom, w/c, parking space, excellent road/rail links to Manchester, must be seen to be believed, reduced for urgent sale, £12,500. Flat 7, Daisyfield Court. 061-797 3546.

AN ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN-STYLE 3-bedroomed semi-detached Property comprising of lounge, kitchen with fitted units, bathroom, and 3 large bedrooms, main bedroom has full-length fitted wardrobes, full gas c/h, beautiful views of open countryside to rear, standing space for garage, price includes all carpets, curtains, and light fittings. £19 950 Tel Accrington 37486

MODERN FAMILY HOME on fringe of Lake District, only 2 miles from motorway, first floor, one single, two double and master bedroom with shower room en-suite, plus bathroom, ground floor, large lounge/diner, family room, kitchen, cloakroom, gas central heating, pleasant gardens, double garage within walking distance of market town centre: £57,000 Tel 0768 64116.

GLOSSOP: Victorian Gothic Stone DETACHED House with ⅓-acre grounds, convenient Manchester, Sheffield, East Cheshire, Peak Park, near schools, shops but private with good views, 3/4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, gas c/h cellars and penthouse S/C Flat suitable semi-detached family, original features, w/c, bath, fireplace, Dadoes tiling, windows, etc. good potential. £76,500 Tel. 061-634 7904 office hours

SUPERIOR STUDIO APARTMENT situated in Lancashire's rural Fylde, on doorstep of Poulton-le-Fylde's town centre with good transport connections, comp living room with feature window seat, fitted kitchen with breakfast bar, sleeping area, dressing room, bathroom (pampas suite), Economy 7 central heating, low outgoings, double glazing, furnishings, car parking space. £15,850 o.n.o. Tel Poulton-le-Fylde 892660, or Cleveleys 825069

OFFERS AROUND £48,000: Substantial DETACHED VICTORIAN CORNER HOUSE well maintained with well stocked walled secluded gardens, good brick garage, Hygena kitchen, utility room, excellent cellars, dining room, sitting room, 6 bedrooms, newly fitted bathroom, electric shower, gas central heating, insulated roof, near good schools. Tel. 051-652 1029.

ISLE OF MAN (Port Erin) Edwardian DETACHED HOUSE of great charm, superb views over links to sea, elegant hall, large drawing and dining rooms, kitchen with Aga, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, s/c flat on first floor, 1 bedroom, sitting room, kitchen, lobby, 2 entrances, drive to double garage etc, about 1,000 sq yds mature garden with trees. £89,000 Tel 0624 833117

MACCLESFIELD. Extended Cottage. Cheshire brick, 4 beds, 2 recep, kit and bathrm, large rooms, full c/h, dble garage, country lane on edge of Peak National Park, uninterrupted views to hills, 45 mins by car Manchester, 30 mins Airport, 9m Exit 17 M6, 5m station for direct 2¼ hrs London, opportunity for businessman relocating to NW. £87 000 Tel 02602 322

GAS CENTRALLY HEATED 3-bedroomed Bungalow on sloping site of ⅓ acre outside, enclosed porch attached garage, well stocked garden. Main rooms double glazed, L-shaped lounge, patio doors to S-E and large Soth-facing window with good views, fitted kitchen, s-facing, half tiled, as are bathroom and shower room. Tel Macclesfield 610285

CHESHIRE. Canalside, spacious 4-bedroomed Dormer Bungalow, 39½ft lounge with views over Cheshire Plain, close to Peak National Park, good size garden, 47ft mooring on Cheshire Ring Canal. £47,950 Bollington (0625) 75227.

DETACHED 1970 HOUSE. Downstairs Lounge adjoining dining-room, professionally designed kitchen, single bedroom, wc. Upstairs, 3 double bedrooms, bathroom, separate wc, good storage, double or secondary glazing; cavity wall and loft insulation, 32ft carport takes Caravan, well-stocked gardens front and rear, pleasant aspect; close town centre, schools, M6 £55,000. Tel Sandbach 3662.

BOLTON. 3 miles centre, 15 miles Manchester. Excellent Detached House of character. Prime residential area, main road position overlooking open country; easy access to motorway network; close to good schools. Entrance porch, large hall, superb lounge, dining-room, fitted kitchen; 3 beds (2 fitted); bathroom with shower cubicle, sep wc; gas c/h; garage; good gardens; £58,950. Tel 0204 492767.

CHESTER. TOWN HOUSE in private wooded position, 10 mins walk city centre; 3 storeys, integral garage; 3 bedrooms (fitted wardrobes); gas central heating; kitchen units; spacious lounge; 2nd toilet, laundry room; shrubbery/patio to rear; superbly decorated throughout. Desirable area, north side of city, convenient Merseyside; £32,500. 5 Woodside Court, Abbots Park, Chester. View Tel Ms Gornall, Southport (0704) 69410.

A MODERN 3-BEDROOMED SEMI (Georgian style windows) on private estate. Lounge, large kitchen/diner, hall; bathroom (coloured suite), storage cupboard, fitted carpets, adequate electric points; gardens front, rear and side, run-in for car (planning permission for garage); convenient buses, shops (including 3 Supermarkets), parks. £25,000. Tel 051-260 5417

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MIDLANDS

WILLENHALL, Wolverhampton: Modern, well maintained ground floor FLAT in quiet cul-de-sac, ideal starter home with two bedrooms, lounge, fitted kitchen, pleasant bathroom with coloured suite and shower, gas fire and water heater, majority double glazing; garage, garden and grassed drying area, leasehold; £15,250 including most carpets and curtains. Tel Wolverhampton 61566, or call 17 Bowker Street, Willenhall.

AN EXTENSIVELY extended three bedroomed DETACHED RESIDENCE in pleasant quiet select cul-de-sac in one of most desired residential rural villages; full gas central heating, cavity wall insulation, part double glazing, hall, large lounge, 18ft dining room, 18ft fully fitted kitchen, separate toilet & bathroom; garage; private gardens; impeccable throughout; £33,995. 16 Stonecleigh Gardens, Codsall, Wolverhampton. 090 74 5781.

FREEHOLD: Quality BUNGALOW in Greenbelt, 6 miles south Nottingham; ½ acre site includes paddock; mature garden; lounge / dining; open marble fireplace, patio, 3 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, study, cloaks/wc, fitted tiled kitchen, tiled bathroom with shower cubicle; double garage and carport; oil central heating; double glazed; ratable value £322. Price £55,000. 0602 251822.

SPACIOUS DETACHED HOUSE (1967). Excellent condition; gas central heating, part double glazing, 26ft south-facing lounge, dining-room, large kitchen / breakfast room, glazed porch, hall, cloaks, toilet, side porch. Four bedrooms (built in wardrobes), bathroom / WC. Integral garage, mature garden, additional parking space; close shops, schools, facilities. (0566) 3102.

NORTH EAST ENGLAND

£18,500. EXCELLENT Detd Concrete Prefab Bungalow; 2 beds, in 800 sq yds productive land with 7ft surrounding hedge, quiet cul de sac, village 13 miles Lincoln; near bus route, mains services; patio, greenhouse, 2 large sheds, car hardstanding, carpets, curtains, auto washing machine. SAE details & photo: Rowe, Chestnut Ave, Burknall, Lincoln LN3 5DU. Cash offers only.

NIDDERDALE, North Yorkshire. Modern, compact 3-bedroomed Semi-detached on small estate in centre of village, 4 miles NW of Harrogate (hourly bus service); has gas cent htg, spacious garden with chalet, garage, also spare for caravan and second car. £32,000. Tel Harrogate (0423) 771326.

UNIQUE 5-STOREY Victorian Town House in attractive city centre conservation area; near university and hospitals. 8 rooms; 3 kitchens, 3 bathrooms, front garden, rear yard. 1st floor balcony, completely renovated in 1982; full gas-fired cent htg, low rates. Suitable for flat conversion or business, offers over £58,000. Tel 0632 615752.

THREE-BEDROOMED modernised Terraced House; separate lounge, dining-rm, large ftd kit, bathrm, gdns front and rear, garage, £23,950. Reasonable offers considered. Hull 881189.

NORTH LEEDS. Four-bedroomed Detached brick-built House in most sought after area, close to all local amenities, 3 golf courses; family sized rooms with gas central heating, dining room, lounge, morning room, kitchen, cloakroom, 2 double bedrooms, 2 single bedrooms, all-fitted furniture, bathroom, separate toilet, double garage, front and back gardens, £59,950. Leeds 685501

SPACIOUS VICTORIAN TERRACE House, good residential district, large sitting and dining rooms, kitchen, panelled hall, staircase and landing, two double bedrooms, 1 single, bathroom, large through studio bedroom with dormer window, large basement with hot and cold and plumbing for washer, work cellar, garage, small gardens front and rear, near riverside and park; gas central heating, £40,000 0943 608087.

WAKEFIELD: Two double bedroomed Edwardian Inner Terraced House, near town centre, *in quiet residential cul-de-sac.* Fully renovated, re-wired and in good decorative order, separate lounge and dining room, fully fitted and tiled modernised kitchen and bathroom with shower, gas fires all rooms, rear garden, dry cellar, £15,950. (0924) 273849

A MODERN 4-Bedroomed DETACHED House, gas central heating, some double glazing, study/playroom extension, large lounge, well fitted Schreiber kitchen, downstairs wc and cloakroom, large porch and attached garage; very large well stocked rear garden, overlooks open countryside and divided by a stream. Worksop 723342.

SCARBOROUGH: Large Edwardian SEMI, built of mellow red brick, 30ft lounge, dining room; kitchen, master bedroom with fitted wardrobes, ensuite wc and basin, view of castle, two other bedrooms, one with basin and clipboards, gas central heating, sealed unit double glazing throughout; well laid out manageable garden with patio, close to town; price £33,500 Tel Scarborough (0723) 364824

LARGE VICTORIAN DETACHED Family House in ¼ acre, Durham 7 miles, Newcastle 15 miles, 3/4 bedrooms, 3 reception, farmhouse kitchen, studio, darkroom, utility/tack room; detached garage, large paved courtyard; patio; ½ acre walled garden; greenhouse; small paddock, village setting; full central heating; part double glazing; £58,000 Durham 734047

THREE-BEDROOMED, 7-year-old Detached Bungalow with solid fuel central heating, double glazing, garage and enclosed garden; located in small friendly village 10 miles south-west of Berwick on Tweed, near to the Cheviots and Holy Island; £30,000, to incl. carpets, blinds and some curtains. Tel. Berwick on Tweed (0289) 88857.

WAKEFIELD. Modern 4-bed Detached: gas cent htg, cavity wall insulation, large lounge, separate dining-rm with Everest patio door to fully enclosed rear garden, downstairs cloak-room/wc, part-tiled bathrm with shower, utility room with plumbing for auto washer, garage, ideal large family home; £45,000. Tel Wakefield 362986.

FENHAM, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE. Four-bedroomed Semi-detached with panoramic views; 2 reception, fitted kitchen, utility area and garage, 3 double bedrooms, 1 single, modern bathroom, separate wc, fitted loft, gas cent htg, re-wired, in good decorative order, landscaped front garden and large well stocked rear garden with conservatory and greenhouse; £31,000. Tel 091-274 6940 evgs and w'ends.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, Gosforth, two miles c/centre. Close to High St, park and Metro. South-facing Victorian terr. Many orig features, yet sympathetically modernised; gas c/h; stripped pine floors, rewired; 3 recep, delightful first flr lnge with bay); 4 bdms; brkfast kit; study; bathrm; utility/wc; gge, gdn & yd. £36,750, incl carpets. Tel (091) 2856302.

AUCKLEY, NEAR DONCASTER S. Yorks. Three-bedroomed Semi-detached; quiet cul de sac, full gas cent htg, kitchen/dining-rm, bathrm with shower, brick garage, £22,500 Tel Doncaster 770662.

SALTBURN, CLEVELAND. North York Coast & Moors. Modern SEMI-DORMER, 3 bedrooms, gas ch, fully double glazed, fitted kitchen, shower, separate garage, gardens, boarded roof space; £38,000. Tel Guisborough 22709.

LEEDS: 2-Bed SEMI, 3 years old, built-in traditional brick with cavity, situated in a quiet residential cul-de-sac within 15 minutes walk of city centre. Accommodation comprises: entrance lobby, living room, breakfast kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom/wc; central heating; gardens to front and rear; RV £143; offers in region of £24,950. Viewing by appointment. Tel Leeds 454148.

VICTORIAN STONE HOUSE, originally built as a Vicarage, now end of a row of cottages. Two beautifully proportioned reception rooms, elegant entrance hall, L-shaped kitchen, large bathroom, separate wc, two double bedrooms, one single, large landing with ample room for another stairway if loft was converted, large paved area at back; stone shed; parking for car and caravan; £29,500. Glossop 4587.

HARROGATE: On southern edge of town and with superb views. Four Bedroomed House of modern construction, splendid garden, approximately ⅓ard acre, stream running through woodland glade; splendidly placed for easy access Leeds/Bradford/York/A1; £66,000. Harrogate 872634.

£18,500: Excellent detached 2-bed concrete Pre-fab Bungalow in 800 sq yds productive land with 7ft surrounding hedge. Quiet cul-de-sac village, 13 miles Lincoln; nr bus route, mains services, patio, greenhouse, two large sheds, car hardstanding, carpets, curtains, automatic washing machine, cash offers only. SAE for details and photo. Chestnut Avenue, Burknall, Lincoln LN3 5DU.

SCOTLAND

KINGS PARK, GLASGOW. Kingsbridge Drive, in superb condition throughout, this upper COTTAGE FLAT, comprising entrance hall, stairs and main landing, bathroom, living room, kitchen, dining room, two bedrooms, new roof, garage; offers over £25,000. For viewing: telephone 041-339 4496.

GALLOWAY. Wigtownshire Bay. Attractive 18th-century LARGE HOUSE, modernised, redecorated, rewired throughout, wooded grounds, coastal area, garage, carport, greenhouse, full c/h, sl/oil, sealed unit double glazing 4/5 bedrooms, potential flatlet (own door) or extra bedrooms, mod oak fitted kitchen, 2 staircases, suit family, guest house, nursing home, 2 flats, great potential; excellent walking country, loch, sea, hills, mild climate. Tel 067 183 266.

PLOT OF LAND with outline planning permission for a single storey Dwelling House, easy commuting distance to Glasgow (22 miles) or Kilmarnock (5 miles), offers over £7,500 for the plot situated in the small Ayrshire village of Moscow. Tel 05607 255.

PERTH. Attractive modern DETACHED House, conveniently situated in quiet residential area with uninterrupted view; lounge, dining room, kitchen with cupboards/worktops, bathroom study/4th bedroom downstairs, three bedrooms, extra w/c upstairs, gas c/h (radiators); plenty of storage space, gardens front and rear, shed, carport; R.V. £362; offers over £54,000. Perth 37146

INVERNESSSHIRE, Glenmoriston; 3 bedroomed 1980 BUNGALOW; lounge, kitchen/diner, 2 bathrooms, 3 miles Loch Ness, 100 yards salmon river, set in half acre; £33,000 ono. Tel.: 0670 514027

SKELMORLIE, AYRSHIRE; facing west over the Clyde (Glasgow 45 mins); this stone built FAMILY HOME has 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 w/cs, cellarage, 30ft gameroom, separate 30ft workroom, plus garage, greenhouse, full gas c/h, recently rewired, secluded 2-acre garden (redureable to 1-acre if desired); offers around £68,500 *Tel* 0475 520284.

DRUMMORE: The most southerly village in Scotland, near Mull of Galloway; sandy beaches, quiet harbour, great variety of sea birds, 16 miles south of Stranraer, TERRACE House, in centre of village, 2½ bedrooms, modern kitchen, large living room, no garden or garage. £13,500. Tel. Bristol 741087.

BURNTISLAND, FIFE: 2 level UPPER FLAT, residential area, near beach, vestibule, hall, large lounge, large fully fitted kitchen/dining area, modern bathroom, upper floor, 3 double bedrooms, toilet/washbasin, gas central heating, garage, garden, £25,000 ono. Tel. 0592 872699.

EDINBURGH: Offers over £25,500; exceptionally well maintained south facing, second floor top FLAT, with superb open outlook, comprising spacious lounge with balcony off, 2 double bedrooms, study/single bedroom, well fitted kitchen with dining area, bathroom with shower, new storage heating system, garden to rear; RV £297, View Mon-Fri, 7-9 pm, Sat & Sun 2-5 pm. Tel. 031-443 0358 after 6 pm.

SCOTLAND (7 miles Perth). St Martins Mill, Balbeggie. Part of Mill, planning permission for dwelling, garden areas, electricity, plumbing, etc laid on; quantity of useful timber, etc; offers over £5,000. Tel 0896 3240.

WALES

WONDERFUL VIEW of Bay and Islands. Coastal walks, mountains and beautiful countryside within easy reach; few minutes' walk from shops, 2-bedroomed Bungalow, Aberdaron, Lleyn Peninsula, £24,950, including all carpets and curtains and some furniture, other furniture available. Dyson, 3 Stokesay, Birkenhead, Merseyside L43 7PU. Tel. 051-652 7513.

TASTEFULLY CONVERTED Well Built Stone Courthouse, barrel vaulted cells, courtyards; 3 bedrooms, bath, kitchen, dining, study, loft, large lounge; wooded garden; drive; outbuildings; centre village; Snowdonian scenery; access A5; rewired; central heating, new Raeburn, Norwegian log/coal fire; freehold; available extra: adjacent three-phase large workshop, kiln; offers. Tel. 049082 582.

SIX-BEDROOMED SEMI-DET HOUSE / Garage select part Builth Wells holiday town; all services; oil-fired Rayburn cooker, mod bath suite, sep wc, quarry tiled hall; passage, kitchen 14ft 7in x 12ft, double ss sink; garden front and rear, outside wc; stone-built house, slate roof; suit B&B or conv flats; all good order and substantial large rooms, 2 reception, 2 bay windows; quiet neighbours; £36,000. Tel Builth 55 2520.

LOVE LANE, that's the address, in an unspoilt North Wales Market Town of a modernised (not spoilt open plan) Terraced House; 2 bedrooms (1 large, 1 small), bath/wc, combined cosy lounge, kitchen / living-room with outlook over large sunny garden; gas central heating throughout, roof insulated, secondary glazing in kitchen; very economical to run. Tel. Colwyn Bay 48396.

MANORBIER VILLAGE, Nr Tenby, SW Wales; Detached 3-bedroomed Bungalow; bathroom with shower, patio doors to terrace from bed/study, good position; views of sea and castle; small gardens back and front; fitted wardrobes in bedrooms and hall; central heating, double glazing; carpets and curtains included: £37,900 ono. Tel. Manorbier 459.

GWYNEDD NORTH WALES
3 MILES Caernarfon. Late Victorian Country House, in about 2 acres matured grounds. 4 receptions, kitchen and offices, 8 bedrooms, bath and shower room. Oil central heating throughout. Views of Snowdonia and Menai Straits. Price £95,000. *Brochure available.* Tel. (0286) 830269.

DETACHED FIVE-BEDROOMED 1920s Dormer Bungalow of great character in mature secluded gardens in pretty Edwardian seaside town of Penarth, five miles from Cardiff; 2 reception and 5 bedrooms, or 3 reception and 4 bedrooms, bathroom, fully fitted kitchen, cloakroom, excellent range of fitted cupboards throughout; gas central heating; garage; freehold; £72,000. Tel. 0222 708545.

PEMBROKESHIRE. Detached Country House; lounge with beamed ceiling and inglenook fireplace with woodstove, 3 double bedrooms, dining-room, fully fitted kitchen, study, bathroom; solid fuel central heating; double garage with workshop; large gardens, ½-acre paddock; accessible for schools, shops, PO, etc, but in secluded, idyllic situation with superb views. Details Tel. 09912 496.

LLANELLI, DYFED. 4-bedroomed Terrace House; immaculate condition, recently had over £15,000 spent; Cesa fitted kitchen, patio doors, fitted carpets; reasonably sized garden; fully insulated; inclusive all carpets, curtains and fittings; ideal family house, close to beaches and town; £32,000 ono. Tel 0553 719724.

BANGOR, NORTH WALES. Terraced House; 3 bedrooms, bathroom; unmodernised; near town centre, close to university, ideal situation for Snowdonia area; £11,000. 0209 842584.

MILFORD HAVEN, DYFED. Large Period House (c. 1830) in quiet waterside location; 7 bedrooms, 2 kitchens, 3 reception rooms, bathroom with wc, shower room, wc; garage; small garden; possible guest-house / sharing; offers around £49,000. Tel. Milford Haven (06462) 2753.

PRESTATYN, N WALES. Detached Bungalow; 3 bedrooms, hall, sitting-room and dining-room, large kitchen with fitted cupboards, plumbing for washer, bathroom, separate toilet; gas c/h; large carport; garden back and front; situated in quiet cul-de-sac, open aspects; easy distance from shops, etc; £23,000 ono. Tel. 074 56 6795.

ABERDOVEY. A Family House right on the sea front, refurbished and retaining original Georgian proportions; 4/5 bedrooms; gas cent. htg; private garden; offers around £59,000. Parry, Leadenhall, Aberdovey. Tel. 0654 72598.

MODERN 4-BED Semi-Detached House, Cemaes Bay, Anglesey, situated in quiet cul-de-sac near to all local amenities; full central heating, fitted kitchen, lounge/diner, downstairs cloakroom; carpets included; substantial garden front and rear, greenhouse included: £26,000 ono. Tel. (0407) 710972.

ABERYSTWYTH, DYFED. Superior Detached 3-bedroomed House in quiet, sunny south facing position, having expansive rural views and convenient to all local amenities, brick built in 1954, accommodation comprises lounge, dining-room, kitchen, study and 3 bedrooms; spacious easily managed garden with detached garage and outhouses; £49,500 ono. Tel. Aberystwyth (0970) 615246.

COLWYN BAY. Freehold First Floor Self-Contained Flat; 2 bedrooms, lounge, dining-room, kitchen, bathroom, separate wc; small garden; ample parking space; near to shops, school and buses; £22,750. RV £169. Tel. Colwyn Bay (0492) 30788.

SOUTH WEST ENGLAND

NEWQUAY, CORNWALL. 6-bedroomed House, situated in this Cornish holiday resort. Central heating, lounge, dining-room, breakfast room, kitchen, bathroom, toilets upstairs and down, and the *benefit* of 2 garages, adjacent golf course, beaches and surrounding countryside and within travelling distance of the main county towns. Price £36,500 ono. 06373 4264.

NORTH DEVON. DETACHED 3-bed Lodge House. Large garden, nr Barnstaple town centre, full c/heating. £49,500. 0271 77023

DETACHED CORNISH FARMHOUSE. Standing in 1.2 acres, between Liskeard and Launceston, 19 miles from Plymouth. Provides ground floor: entrance porch, hall, lounge, kitchen / diner, utility room, storage rm, shower / toilet, rear lobby. 1st floor: 3 bedrooms, bathroom / toilet, cent heating by night storage. Outside: dble garage / workshop, standing for other cars. Price £48,500 Tel 0579 62604.

UNIQUE BARN CONVERSION, in North Cotswold Village with Post Office / Stores, etc. Attractive small home. Ideal weekend / retirement / holiday cottage or permanent home. Hall, living-room, kitchen, main bedroom with en suite, shower room, attic studio / bedroom, second bathroom, small courtyard garden. Open fronted garage. Easily maintained character property with central heating. Offers in excess £49,500. Tel Cotswold (0451) 30211.

A SUPERB SEMI, on the edge of a small development offering lounge / diner, well fitted kitchen, cloakroom / WC, 3 good-sized bedrooms, bathroom / WC, gas central heating, detached garage, cavity wall insulation and secluded garden; £34,950. 0202 697884.

£67,000: Cotswold Regency House, ideal for large family or guest house. 2 reception, large kitchen, 7 bedrooms, shower & bathrooms. Full gas central heating, double garage, outbuildings and large garden, all well maintained. Stroud 4, Cheltenham 12, Gloucester 10 miles. Brinson, Hillhouse, London Road, Chalford, Glos 045 388 2673.

DORSET, SHERBORNE 3 miles. Romantic, spacious upper part of stone-built Victorian Rectory, in quiet village: 4 bedrooms, 29ft drawing-room, large kitchen, etc, plus over 1½ acres garden with fruit trees, stream, wood and part paddock. 999-year lease; £47,500 ono. Write Curtis, The Old Rectory, Sandford Orcas, or telephone 01-856 0361 weekday evenings.

DETACHED HOUSE of Character. Spectacular Country Views, 3 bedrooms, 2 reception, secluded rear garden, front laid out to shrubs. Garage, shed and greenhouse. A comfortable family home. Price: £42,500. Exeter 77971.

TORQUAY. SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOW. 2 double bedrooms, lounge, dining-room, kitchen, bathroom & WC. Gardens, space for 3 cars. Boat or caravan space, few yards on level to shops & bus stops; ¾ mile on level to town centre, good repair, vacant possession, rateable value: £161. £27,000. Freehold. Topsham 5799.

GROUND FLOOR FLAT. Three bedrooms, with optional fourth bedroom or study, exceptionally large lounge / diner, kitchen (mainly modernised), bathroom with toilet, hand basin and modern shower and bath. Sun lounge (Shared entrance porch), full gas central heating and use of outdoor swimming pool. Available March / April. Price: £36,000. 154 Maidenway Road, Paignton, Devon. 527969.

JUST 4 MILES from the sea and handy for Dartmoor, this five-year old SEMI-DETACHED House is situated in a well-designed close. In a quiet residential area, the accommodation is a lounge, dining area, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom and garage, gardens front and rear are moderately sized and easy to maintain. £32,750. Newton Abbot 60827.

NR BRISTOL: Modern End TERRACE HOUSE: 2 beds, living room, kitchen, bathroom; gardens; 2 parking spaces; rural views at rear; ideal first home; commuting distance Bristol; £25,950. Tel Thornbury (0454) 415963 after six, weekends.

CHIPPENHAM, Wiltshire. £54,000 Six year old 3-bedroomed well maintained HOUSE in quiet cul de sac, near primary school and within walking distance of town centre with InterCity 125 link to Reading and London. House comprises hall, cloakroom, lounge / diner, kitchen / breakfast room 3 bedrooms, bathroom, gardens; gas fired central heating, cavity insulation, double glazing to downstairs. 0249 656407.

SALISBURY, Wiltshire. Spacious five bedroom SEMI DETACHED EDWARDIAN HOUSE, panoramic view of cathedral and city, drawing room, dining room, fitted kitchen, pleasant conservatory, downstairs cloakroom, bathroom, two cellar rooms, car port, attractive garden with raised patio overlooking Godolphin School playing fields, situated in secluded cul-de-sac, only ten minutes walk from city, gas central heating, offers around £78,000. Tel Salisbury 332568.

BRISTOL: Peaceful rural hamlet, 9 miles north of Bristol M4/M5 interchange 4 miles, market town of Thornbury 2 miles. DETACHED stone-built COTTAGE, 3/4 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, store room, mains drainage, completely re-wired, some redecoration required, large garden, large garage, scope for further improvement and extension, £59,500 or offer for quick sale Thornbury (0454) 413949.

DEVON/ SOMERSET BORDER, close Exmoor. OLD SCHOOL HOUSE. A unique luxury conversion, rural village 6 miles M5. Spacious accom, log fire and gallery, 2/3 beds, oak beams, pine floors, central heating and small garden. Details from owner, £52,500 ono. 01-586 1899.

A SPLENDID DETACHED HOUSE occupying a superb setting amongst East Devon's beautiful countryside, comprising fitted oak kitchen, dining room, sitting room, 32ft lounge with patio doors, 5 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, cloakroom, utility room, garage and outbuildings in ¼ acre of garden and fruit trees; price £86,000 0404 81 4418.

2 BEDROOM first floor FLAT for sale, 5 minutes from sea front, large kitchen / diner; large sitting room and bedroom, second small bedroom, bathroom with shower, separate toilet, car standing space; full gas fired central heating; in very good condition; freehold; £23,000. 9 Glenmore Road, Minehead, Somerset.

IMMACULATE 2 double bedroom COTTAGE in the beautiful Exmoor village of Withypool overlooking River Barle and with wonderful views all round. Night storage heaters, double glazed and garage: £41,000 fhd. "Moor View", Withypool. Tel Exford 582.

COTSWOLDS: DETACHED Cotswold Stone COTTAGE in delightful semi-rural hillside position 4 miles M5, 15 miles M4. 2 double bedrooms; gas central heating; garage; superb views; short walk to 500 acres National Trust inc golf course, 3 miles Stroud, 9 miles Gloucester, 17 miles Cheltenham. £39,950 for quick sale. Tel Amberley (045387) 2575.

CLIFTON. Split-level FLAT, Period House, frontage, downs, rear panoramic views; car space; near BBC, university, schools, shops. One double bedroom, split-level fitted kitchen, bathroom, wc and shower, shaver, cloakroom, wc; central heating; garden, wine cellar; £27,950 including Wilton carpeting; fitted storage; parental investment university student. 15 Upper Belgrave Rd. Bristol. 0272 737406.

THATCHED COUNTRY RESIDENCE, Dartmoor, fields, orchards, fishing rights on river, beautifully kept period property, Dartmoor Valley. £95,000 ono. 0364 42652.

PORTISHEAD. Overlooking Bristol Channel, yet only twenty minutes Bristol centre. Five minutes M5, close M4 and Severn Bridge. First-floor Flat, purpose-built, two bedrms, attractive lnge-diner, g'ge, cent htg, excel shops nearby, adjoining lake grounds with tennis, bowls, lido, golf, sailing, first class condition, pleasant gdns, super location, ideal for holiday, wk-end work. £29,950. 0272 844396.

TELEVISION

PROGRAMME GUIDE BY SANDY SMITHIES

SATURDAY

BBC-1

6 45 -8 25 am Open University. 8 30 Roobarb. 8 35 The Littlest Hobo. 9 0 Saturday Superstore. 12 12 pm Weather.

12 15 GRANDSTAND. Including: Football Focus (12 20): news (12 45): ice hockey from Durham (12 55: 2 10: 2 40: 3 10); boxing preview (1 40): racing from Punchestown (1 55: 2 25: 2 55): rugby league (3 30); half-times (3 50): cyclo-cross — World Professional Championships from Germany (4 15): final score (4 40).

5 5 NEWS; weather; sport: regional news.

5 20 DOCTOR WHO: The Two Doctors. Part 2. Second instalment. of three. of the current time yarn. with Colin Baker and Patrick Troughton as the two Whos. Ceefax sub-titles.

6 5 JIM'LL FIX IT. Jimmy Savile fulfils more funny and far-fetched fantasies.

6 40 THE LAUGHTER SHOW. More irreverent impressions from comics Les Dennis and Dustin Gee. with the real Larry Grayson lining up alongside Dustin's version. plus a tune or two from heart-throb composer Gerard Kenny.

7 15 ONE BY ONE. 8: It's All Done with Mirrors. Further adventures of animal man Donald (Rob Heyland). now faced with complaints from a motorist whose car has been monkeyed with. Ceefax sub-titles.

8 5 DYNASTY: The Cheque. Ceefax sub-titles.

8 50 BERGERAC: A Touch of Eastern Promise. John Nettles as Jersey Jim, investigating the accidents to a visiting Arab in the latest repeated crime yarn. Ceefax sub-titles.

9 45 NEWS: sport: weather.

10 0 INTERNATIONAL BOXING. From Belfast. live coverage of the featherweight fight between popular Irish hope Barry McGuigan and former world champion Juan La Porte from Puerto Rico. Harry Carpenter is the commentator. Times hereafter may vary.

10 40 MATCH OF THE DAY. Jimmy Hill with the day's League soccer highlights. plus news. analysis. results. and the February Goal of the Month contest.

11 30 YOUR THREE MINUTES ARE UP. Made in 1973. this modest. effective. astringent little comedy stars Ron Leibman as the jobless rebel who persuades his very respectable Buddy (Beau Bridges) to join him on a journey away from bills and responsibility. 1 0 Weather: close.

Wales: 8 30-9 0 am Rugby Union: Try, Try Again. Scotland: 10 40-11 30 pm Sportscene. *Northern Ireland: 10 0 pm Match of the Day.* 10 45 Film: North Dallas Forty (1979). With Nick Nolte, Charles Durning. 12 40 am News: weather: close.

BBC-2

6 25 am Open University.

3 10 ARCH OF TRIUMPH. *The modern,* mini-series version of Erich Maria Remarque's classic novel was shown recently on ITV but this is the 1948 original, with Charles Boyer as the refugee doctor falling for tragic Ingrid Bergman in war-torn Paris, with Charles Laughton as his evil old Nazi adversary.

5 20 ISLAND OF THE BLUE DOLPHINS. That's the scenic and ravishingly-photographed setting for this family adventure yarn, made in 1964, and based on the true story of a young Robina Crusoe of the early 19th century.

6 50 NEWS: sport; weather.

7 5 FRANCE ACTUELLE. 2: The Mountains of The Dauphine. Another documentary view of our neighbour nation, showing how modern life is encroaching on the traditional ways of an isolated mountain region.

7 30 HANDEL TERCENTENARY CONCERT. Live from Westminster Abbey, last resting place of the popular German-born, British-adopted composer, a concert celebrating the 300th anniversary of his birth with music from all periods of his life. Introduced by Raymond Leppard, who devised the programme and conducts, it includes some less well-known works as well as the classic Hallelujah Chorus, Zadok the Priest, Let the Bright Seraphim. There's simultaneous stereo transmission on Radio 3, and (8 40) a diversion to London's Foundling Hospital, the composer's favourite charity, where John Amis and H. C. Robbins Landon discuss Handel and Friends.

10 0 BLOTT ON THE LANDSCAPE: 3. Second showing for last Wednesday's third instalment of the Tom Sharpe farce, with Geraldine James, George Cole, Simon Cadell. Ceefax sub-titles.

10 55 THE BURSTON SCHOOL STRIKE. A welcome re-run for a fascinating Yesterday's Witness film in which James Cameron tells the story of the longest strike in English history — subject, too, of tomorrow's Screen Two drama.

11 40 RUGBY SPECIAL: Bath v. Blackheath. Nigel Starmer-Smith with highlights of today's John Player *Special Cup match, and the rest of* the day's rugger news. 12 35 Close.

ITV London

6 15 am Good Morning Britain. 8 30 The Wide-awake Club. 9 25 Information: Cartoon Time. 9 35 Scooby. Scrappy and Yabba Doo. 10 0 No. 73. 11 20 Space 1999.

12 15 WORLD OF SPORT. Including: boxing — WBA World Lightweight Championship from Reno, Nevada (12 20); news (12 45); On the Ball (12 50); international athletics — US Indoor Grand Prix final from Madison Square Garden (1 20); racing from Kempton and Doncaster (1 50); snooker — British Open from the Assembly Rooms. Derby (3 10; 4 0); half-time soccer (3 45); results (4 45).

5 0 NEWS; sport: weather.

5 5 BLOCKBUSTERS. Bob Holness with the teenagers' quiz.

5 35 THE A-TEAM: A Cup a' Joe. More macho action with the soldiers of fortune.

6 30 THE FAME GAME. Tim Brooke-Taylor hosts the talent contest which makes no demands on his.

7 15 ALL STAR SECRETS. Michael Parkinson with more daft disclosures about the likes of Marti Caine. Willie Rushton and Leslie Thomas. Oracle sub-titles.

7 45 T. J. HOOKER: The *Snow Game.* William Shatner as the honest copper, investigating the drugs ring which caused the death of a friend, in the latest imported episode.

8 45 THE PRICE IS RIGHT. Leslie Crowther with the cheap and nasty game show.

9 45 NEWS; sport: weather.

10 0 ASPEL AND COMPANY, with Victoria Wood, Beryl Reid, Sebastian Coe. London News Headlines.

10 45 AUF WIEDERSEHEN, PET: Home Thoughts from Abroad. Continuing the re-run of Central's expertly constructed drama, with the German-based building workers rallying round Bomber (Pat Roach) who has had worrying news from home. Oracle sub-titles.

11 45 INTERNATIONAL SNOOKER. Dickie Davies with ongoing action from the third round of the British Open at the Assembly Rooms. Derby.

12 30 MAGNUM: Flashback.

1 20 NEW FROM LONDON: John Martyn. Offering his unique blend of improvisional jazz. folk and blues.

2 20 *NIGHT THOUGHTS with Rabbi Julia* Neuberger. Closedown.

Channel 4

1 0 pm Everybody Here. 1 30 The Making Of Britain. 7: The Landlords at Home.

1 55 STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE. Intrepid newspaperman Spencer Tracy presumes to track down famed explorer Cedric Hardwicke.

3 50 SEVEN SINNERS. Edmund Lowe leads this British-made, 1936 murder-mystery.

5 5 BROOKSIDE. Omnibus edition.

6 0 THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TRACKS. Paul Gambaccini joins The Tube Team to see how the show is put together.

7 0 UNION WORLD. Gus Macdonald with the returning programme on trade union affairs, looking at the likely outcome of the forthcoming ballot the unions are obliged to hold on whether members want to pay a political levy.

7 30 CREDO. 1: God and the World. LWT's excellent religious affairs programme switches channels and doubles its length with this new series, co-presented by John Stapleton and Professor Stewart Sutherland. Tonight, in discussion with the Archbishop of York, they examine the Christian concept of the relationship between God and the world.

8 30 AS THE YEARS PASS, AS THE DAYS PASS: 6. Continuing the sub-titles costume drama made by Andrzej Wajda for Polish TV.

9 45 MY WORLD AND WELCOME TO IT: The Night the House Caught Fire. More Thurberesque comedy with William Windom.

10 15 HILL STREET BLUES: Dr Hoof and Mouth. More drama with the street-wise, street-weary cops.

11 10 BLACK WAX. Another showing for Robert Mugge's documentary on the black American poet and songwriter Gil Scott-Heron.

12 40 SCOTLAND YARD: Wings of Death. Harry H. Corbett, no less, is the investigating detective, probing a strange mid-air plane crash, in the latest old thriller. 1 10 Close.

1 45 pm A Question of Economics. 2 15 A Week in Politics. 3 0 Repercussions. 4 5 The British at War. 6 5 Where in the World? 6 30 The Avengers. 7 30 Newyddion. 7 45 Sion a Sian. 8 15 Wedi Wyth. 8 45 Pedwar ar Bedwar. 9 15 Y Maes Chwarae. 10 15 Supertroupers. 11 15 Film: Torrid Zone. 1940 comedy melodrama with James Cagney, Pat O'Brien, Ann Sheridan. 12 55 Diwedd.

Anglia

6 15 am As London.
11 20 Chips.
12 15 pm As London.
12 30 am At the End of the Day: close.

Central

6 15 am As London.
9 25 Adventures of the Blue Knight.
9 35 Scooby. Scrappy and Yabba Doo.
10 0 No. 73.
11 20 Chips.
12 15 pm As London.
5 5 Cartoon Alphabet.
5 35 As London.
7 45 The Price is Right.
8 45 TJ Hooker.
9 45 As London.
12 30 Close.

Channel

6 15 As London.
9 57 Puffin's Pla(i)ce.
10 0 No. 73.
11 20 Tarzan.
12 15 As London.
5 5 Puffin's Pla(i)ce.
5 10 Cartoon Alphabet.
5 35 As London.
7 45 The Price Is Right.
8 45 T.J. Hooker.
9 45 As London.
12 35 Weather: close.

Granada

6 15 As London.
11 20 The Fall Guy.
12 15 As London.
5 5 Diff'rent Strokes.
5 35 As London.
7 45 The Price Is Right.
8 45 T. J. Hooker.
9 45 As London.
12 30 Film: Danger By My Side. 1959 crime drama with Anthony Oliver, Maureen Connell.
1 35 Close.

HTV

6 15 As London.
11 20 The Little House on the Prairie.
12 15 pm As London.
5 5 Cartoon Alphabet.
5 35 As London.
12 30 Weather: close.

Wales: As West except: 12 30 am-1 15 Cup Rugby. 1 15 Weather: close.

South

6 15 As London.
9 25 Flying Circus.
9 35 As London.
11 20 The Green Hornet.
11 45 Birdman and Galaxy Trio.
12 15 As London.
12 35 am Company: close.

South-West

6 15 As London.
9 57 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays.
10 0 No 73.
11 20 Freeze Frame.
12 15 As London.
5 5 Newsport.
5 10 Cartoon Alphabet.
5 35 As London.
7 45 The Price Is Right.
8 45 T. J. Hooker.
9 45 As London.
12 35 Postscript: weather: close.

Yorkshire

6 15 As London.
11 20 The Adventurer.
11 50 Joanie Loves Chachi.
12 15 As London.
5 5 Cartoon Alphabet.
5 35 As London.
7 45 The Price Is Right.
8 45 T. J. Hooker.
9 45 As London.
12 30 Close

RADIO

Radio 1

6 0 am Mark Page. 8 0 Peter Powell. 10 0 Dave Lee Travis. 1 0 pm Punk to Present: 4. 2 0 Paul Gambaccini. 4 0 Saturday Live. 6 30 In Concert: Everything But the Girl and The Quick. 7 30 Phil Kennedy. 9 30 - 12 0 Dixie Peach.

Radio 2

4 0 am Arthur Murphy. 6 0 George Ferguson. 8 5 David Jacobs. 10 0 Sounds of the 60s. 11 0 Album Time. 1 0 pm The Impressionists. 1 30 Sport on 2. 6 0 Folk on 2. 7 0 Beat the Record. 7 30 More Melodies for You. 9 30 Big Band Special. 10 0-11 0 (medium wave) International Boxing Special: Barry McGuigan v Juan Laporte. 10 5 (VHF) Steve Jones. (Medium wave also from 11 0). 12 5 am Night Owls. 1 0 Peter Dickson. 3 0 - 4 0 Wally Whyton.

Radio 3

6 55 Weather: News: Aubade.
9 0 News: Record Review: Janacek's Taras Bulba.
10 15 Stereo Release. Josquin des Pres: Missa di Dadi (Mediaeval Ensemble of London): Tchikovsky: Sacred pieces (Moscow Chamber Choir / Ukhov).
11 0 Robert Mayer Concert for Young People: London Mozart Players. dir Jane Glover. Martyn Hill (tenor), William Bennett (flute). Music on the Orpheus Legend by Monteverdi: Gluck, Stravinsky, Thea Musgrave; and Offenbach.
12 15 Music for Clarinet and Piano (Michael Collins. Kathryn Stott). Ireland: Fantasy Sonata: Faure: Two Duos: Howells: Sonata.
1 0 News: Anthony Goldstone (piano). Scarlatti: Five Sonatas; Schumann: Kinderscenen: Elgar: Concert Allegro.
2 0 Verdi's Operas: Falstaff. Verdi's last opera, sung in Italian with Tito Gobbi, Nan Merriman, Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Philharmonia Chorus and Orch, cond Karajan. (3 20 Interval).
4 15 Kronos Quartet. Sallinen: Quartet Nos 3 and 5.
5 0 Jazz Record Requests.
5 45 Critics' Forum.
6 35 Schubert: Three Pieces: Wanderer Fantasy. Maurizio Pollini (piano).
7 30 Handel Tercentenary Concert from Westminster Abbey, simultaneous with BBC-2.
8 40 Curates and Conquests. Anthology about clergy in love.
9 0 Handel, part 2. Including Concerto a due cori No 1, an organ concerto, excerpts from Samson and Delilah.
9 50 The Waterman. Play by Keith Harrison.
10 15 Brahms (Variations Op 21 No 1) *and Schumann (Faschiningsschwank aus Wien).* Janos Solyom (piano).
11 0 Norway after Grieg. Saeverud: Symphony No 7 (Bergen SO/ Andersen): Hvoslef: Double-bass Concerto (Gary Karr / LPO / Dreier) and Trio for Soprano, contralto and piano.
11 57 News.

Radio 4

5 55 Shipping Forecast.
6 0 News Briefing.
6 10 Prelude.
6 30 News: Farming Today.
6 50 Prayer for the Day.
7 0 News: Today's Papers.
7 15 On Your Farm.
7 45 In Perspective. Religious News.
7 50 Down to Earth. Garden jobs.
8 0 News: Today's Papers.
8 15 Sport on 4.
8 48 Yesterday in Parliament.
9 0 News: Breakaway.
9 50 News Stand. Angela Gordon reviews the weeklies.
10 5 The Week in Westminster. With Adam Raphael.
10 30 Pick of the Week.
11 30 From our Own Correspondent.
12 0 News: Money Box.
12 27 Blandings. Stories by Wodehouse. 4: Company for Gertrude.
1 0 News: Any Questions? from Durham with Melvyn Bragg. Diana Warwick. Lord Vinson. Joan Hall.
2 0 News: Afternoon Play: Broken Wings, Bright Stars. Brazilian drama by Mike Walker.
3 0 News: A Lexicon of Laughter (6)
3 30 Maharaj. Indian courtly life (6)
4 15 A Good Idea, but . . . world of the private inventor.
4 45 A Sideways Look At . . .
5 0 Wildlife. Nature notes.
5 25 Week Ending. News send-up.
6 0 News.
6 25 Desert Island Discs: Actor Anthony Hopkins.
7 5 Stop the Week.
7 45 Baker's Dozen. Popular classics.
8 30 Saturday-Night Theatre: Private Correspondence. Crime thriller by Nicholas Stark.
9 45 Up-Helly-AA! Phil Smith at the Shetland Fire Festival.
10 0 News.
10 15 Evening Service.
10 30 Soundings. Moral issues.
11 0 Science Now.
11 30 In One Ear. Forgettable comedy.
12 0 News; Weather: Shipping.

Wales (340m): 4 0 am As Radio 2. 6 30 If You Don't Get Up You'll Miss It. 8 5 Get Gardening. 8 30 Playday. 9 30 Good Golly Miss Molly! 11 3 Saturday Roadshow. 1 5 pm Sportstime. 1 15 Sporting Ties. 1 45 Roy Noble. 2 30 Sportstime. 6 25 Let's Pop Back. 7 0-4 0 am As Radio 2.

Cymru (VHF): 5 55 am Weather: Gweler Radio 4. 7 45 Byd Amaeth. 8 0 Newyddion: Dros fy Sbectol. 8 15 Ribidires. 9 0 Newyddion: Wyddoch Chi . . . ? 9 40 Cadw Reiat. 11 30 Sgwpasbigyn. 12 2 pm Byd y Bel. 12 30 Cwiwm Pump. 1 0 Newyddion: Crafu'r Gwaelod. 1 35 Ar y Ffordd. 2 30 Chwaraeon. 6 25-Close Gweler Radio 4.

Scotland (370m): 6 0 am As Radio 4. 6 32 Farming News. 7 0 As Radio 4. 7 10 Travel Time. 7 35 Weekly Report. 8 0 News; Leisure Trail. 9 3 Top Forty Show. 10 30 Call David Scott. 11 30 Jimmy Mack's Old Gold. 12 35 pm Naked Radio. 1 3 Gerry McKenzie's Tartan Terror Show. 2 2 Sportsound. 6 0 News: Take the Floor. 7 30 Nashville Express. 8 30-Close As Radio 4.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648kHz (463m) at the following times GMT: 6 0 am Newsdesk. 7 0 News. 7 9 Twenty-Four Hours. 7 30 From the Weeklies. 7 45 Network UK. 8 0 News. 8 9 Reflections. 8 15 A Jolly Good Show. 9 0 News. 9 9 British Press Review. 9 15 The World Today. 9 30 Financial News. 9 40 Look Ahead. 9 45 Handel in London. *10 0 News: That's Trad. 10 15 Letter* from America. 10 30 People and Politics. 11 0 News. 11 9 News about Britain. 11 15 About Britain. 12 0 noon Radio Newsreel. 12 15 pm Anything Goes. 12 45 Sports Roundup. 1 0 News. 1 9 Twenty Four Hours. 1 30 Network UK. 1 45 Country Music Profile. 2 0 News: Music Now. 2 30 Album Time. 3 0 Radio Newsreel. 3 15 Saturday Special. 4 0 News. 4 9 Commentary. 4 15 Saturday Special. 5 0 News: Saturday Special. 8 0 News. 9 15 What's New. 9 30 People and Politics. 10 0 News. 10 9 From our own Correspondent. 10 30 New Ideas. 10 40 Reflections. 10 45 Sports Roundup. 11 0 News. 11 9 Commentary. 11 15 Letterbox. 11 30 Meridian. 12 0 midnight News. 12 9 am News about Britain. 12 15 Radio Newsreel. 12 30 Baker's Half Dozen. 1 0 News: Play of the Week: A Captive Lion. 2 0 News. 2 9 British Press Review. 2 15 Sackbuts and Sinfonias. 2 30 Sports Review. 3 0 News. 3 9 News about Britain. 3 15 From our own Correspondent. 3 30 Jazz Score. 4 0 Newsdesk. 4 30 Out on the Floor. 5 45 Letter from America.

SUNDAY

BBC-1

6 45-8 50 am Open University. 8 55 The Flumps. 9 10 De Bono's Thinking Course. 9 35 Electronic Office. 10 0 Asian Magazine. 10 30 Switch on to English. 10 55 France Actuelle. 11 20 Lent Service. 12 5 pm Mr Smith's Indoor Garden. 12 30 Farming. 12 55 Magic Roundabout. 1 0 This Week Next Week, with David Dimbleby interviewing David Steel, Coal Minister David Hunt, and Jack Taylor of the Yorkshire NUM. 1 55 Cartoon. 2 0 Eastenders. Omnibus edition with Ceefax sub-titles. 3 0 Comedy Classic Hour: Dad's Army. Arthur Lowe. John Le Mesurier and Clive Dunn in Two-and-a-half Feathers. 3 30 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em, with Michael Crawford, and Michele Dotrice. 4 0 Tom and Jerry. 4 5 Sporting Chance. London and South East only. See below for regional variations. 4 35 Bonanza. 5 25 The Pickwick Papers (8). Ceefax sub-titles.

5 55 HOLIDAY. Tom Savage investigates flotilla holidays for you and your yacht, off the still-unspoilt coast of Turkey.

6 30 NEWS: Weather News.

6 40 SONGS OF PRAISE. From Chelmsford Cathedral.

7 15 BY THE SWORD DIVIDED. 8: The Mailed Fist. Choices abound in the latest instalment of the costume drama, with Cromwell (Peter Jeffrey) being offered a kingly crown, and the decision of a lifetime facing comely Mistress Fletcher (Sharon Mughan). Ceefax sub-titles.

8 10 LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE: Enter the Phantom. Will Compo succeed in his latest, two-wheel drive to win his beloved's respect? Bill Owen as the bold biker, egged on by Peter Sallis, Brian Wilde.

8 40 MASTERMIND. Robert Falcon Scott's life is the topical choice of one of tonight's contenders, with the others opting to specialise in the British Raj, the Ottoman Empire and the Diaghilev Ballet.

9 10 NEWS: Weather News.

9 25 THAT'S LIFE. Esther and the gang with more of life's little peculiarities.

10 10 EVERYMAN: Sisters in the Spirit. Laura, Elizabeth and Lunadelle all pass their days in inner-city Britain, far from the warmth of their Caribbean origins. What links them with their roots, and with each other, is their faith, and tonight's film looks at the central place of their Church in the lives of Britain's black sisters.

10 50 POLITICS OF PRESSURE. 2: Behind Closed Doors. MPs Julian Critchley and Austin Mitchell are among the contributors to this second programme in the series.

11 15 NIGHT COURT: Some Like It Hot. 11 40 Weather: close.

Wales: 2 0-3 0 pm Weekend Rugby Union. Cardiff v. Neath. 4 5-4 35 A Question of Sport. 10 10 A View of the Rhondda: Faith, Hope. 10 50 Everyman. 11 30 Politics of Pressure. 11 55-12 0 News: Weather: Close. Scotland: 9 10 am France Actualle. 9 35-10 0 Switch on to English. 10 30-11 20 Seven Days. 4 5-4 35 pm Sporting Chance. Northern Ireland: 10 0-10 30 am Farm View. 4 5 pm Make Mine Country. 4 35-5 25 Professional Boxing. 11 15 Farm View. 11 45-11 50 News: Weather. England: 4 5-4 35 pm East: Commuter Quiz. London and South-east: Sporting Chance. Midlands: A38 — An English Road. North: The Magic Lantern Show. North-East: North Country. North-West: The Sweeney File. South: King's Country. South-West: Antiques at Home. West: A38 — An English Road.

BBC-2

6 50 am-1 55 pm Open University. 2 5 Horizon: The Miracle of Life. 2 50 The Great Art Collection: The Classical Tradition. 3 25 Bridge Club. 3 50 Master Photographers. 1: Alfred Eisenstaedt. 4 25 The British Record Industry Awards.

6 0 *NEWS REVIEW. With sub-titles*, presented by Moira Stuart.

6 30 THE MONEY PROGRAMME. Why are some magazine publishers giving away their glossies for nothing? Can the ones with a cover price compete? This week's edition of the money magazine reports, too, on the way private security firms in the States are beginning to encroach on the role of the police, and asks if it could happen here.

7 15 IN SEARCH OF THE TROJAN WAR. 1: The Age of the Heroes. Historian Michael Wood embarks on a new six-part odyssey into the past as he seeks to establish, from the available evidence, whether Homer's 3,000-year-old epic is based on real events of the Bronze Age. At the alleged site of Troy, at Hissarlik in Turkey — more heaps of rubble than topless towers — he begins with the story of the German adventurer Schliemann and his extraordinary claim to have found the jewels of Helen herself.

8 10 FAVOURITE THINGS. Desert island host Roy Plomley comes ashore for this new series, as simple in concept and as potentially compelling as the radio prog, in which various celebrities talk to him about the things that brighten up their lives. Beryl Reid is the first enthusiast: Les Dawson, Lord Tonypandy are to follow.

8 40 INTERNATIONAL PRO-CELEBRITY GOLF. Would you believe Wogan AGAIN?

9 30 DID YOU SEE . . . ? Journalist Bel Mooney, singer and medical man Hank Wagford join Ludovic Kennedy to review The Practice. Last of the Summer Wine, and the Just Another Day film on Great Ormond Street Hospital.

10 10 THE BURSTON REBELLION. by Elaine Morgan. Eileen Atkins and Bernard Hill lead this Screen Two film based on the extraordinary true story (see also last night's documentary account) of the Norfolk schoolchildren's strike that lasted for 20 years. They play Kitty and Tom Higdon, the beloved village schoolteachers whose sacking inspired their community to rebellion: John Shrapnel is the Rector who led the opposition to their socialist ideas.

11 40 INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS. Kevin McCarthy is the small-town doctor who latches on to the alien takeover of human bodies, in Don Siegel's classic, seminal SF thriller, made in 1955. Close.

ITV London

6 55 am Good Morning Britain including 7 2 Rub-a-Dub-Tub: 8 2 Get Along Gang: 8 30 Jonathan Dimbleby's Review of the Week. 9 25 Information. 9 30 Crafts Made Simple. 10 0 Morning Worship. 10 45 God's Story. 11 0 Getting On. 11 30 Coping. 12 0 Weekend World: killer disease AIDS. 1 0 pm Police 5. 1 15 The Big Match. 2 0 Encounter. 2 30 The Smurfs. 2 45 Survival. 3 15 International Snooker. 5 30 Bullseye. 6 0 Supergran. Oracle sub-titles.

6 30 NEWS: weather.

6 40 APPEAL. By Jill Gascoine on behalf of the National Council for One-Parent Familes.

6 45 HIGHWAY: Aldershot. Military Town. Harry Secombe goes on parade with garrison and guests. including Arthur English and Iris Williams.

7 15 GAME FOR A LAUGH. More playground humour with the squawking foursome.

8 15 THE PRACTICE. Another visit to the health centre. where Dr Golding (John Fraser) is angered by the unqualified success of the glamorous Gloria in using alternative methods on one of his patients. Oracle sub-titles.

8 45 COVER HER FACE: 2. Second instalment of the P. D. James thriller. dramatised for Anglia by Robin Chapman. with Roy Marsden as the *thinking woman's* copper. pursuing his inquiries into the Book Club killing and focusing his investigation on the Maxie household. With Phyllis Calvert. Bill Fraser. Julian Glover. Mel Martin. Oracle sub-titles.

9 45 NEWS: weather.

10 0 SPITTING IMAGE. More scurrilous sketches with the latex lookalikes.

10 30 THE SOUTH BANK SHOW. Melvyn Bragg joins the young conductor Simon Rattle as he leads a music workshop with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. then expands on the musical and orchestral subtleties of the first movement of Beethoven's Eroica Symphony. In the second half of the programme Rattle conducts the finale of the Turangalila Symphony by Olivier Messiaen — who. fans may care to note. will be the subject of a profile marking the programme's 200th edition in April. London News Headlines.

11 30 INTERNATIONAL SNOOKER. Further coverage of the big-money British Open contest from Derby.

12 30 WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE: Bounty For A Bride. Steve McQueen as the bounty-hunting hero of the old Western serial.

12 55 NIGHT THOUGHTS with the Bishop of Durham. Closedown.

Channel 4

1 0 pm Irish Angle. 1 30 Face the Press: David Blunkett, leader of the Sheffield city council. 2 0 A Question of Economics. 7: 2 30 New India Feature Film: Garma Hava (Scorching Winds). 1973 family drama about partition.

5 0 *THE AMATEUR NATURALIST*: A Monarchy of Trees. Naturewatchers Gerald and Lee Durrell observe the passing seasons, and much else in the New Forest, in the latest repeat of the series. News Summary, weather.

5 30 THE BUSINESS PROGRAMME on Austin-Rover's chances of survival.

6 15 BASKETBALL: The Anglo-Scottish Cup. Simon Reed and Alton Byrd with live coverage of the tournament's second semi-final, between Manchester Giants and Warrington at Altrincham.

7 15 FRAGILE EARTH: Siarau — The Tidal Forest. The Worldwise season of programmes on the environment continues with a repeat showing of the first film in Phil Agland and Mike Rosenberg's outstanding series on ecosystems in different parts of the world, showing how delicate is the natural balance between plants, animals and their environment.

8 15 SUPER TROUPERS. Tony Bilbow introduces more old time impressions from Newcastle's New Tyne Theatre, with Frankie Vaughan, Polly Hemingway, Tommy Trinder among the names on tonight's bill.

9 20 A PAINFUL CASE. by James Joyce. In the wake of the memorable Lovers of the Lake, C4's highly successful series of co-productions with RTE is enhanced by three more dramatisations of classic Irish love stories. In this first one Mick Lally and Sian Phillips play the Victorian couple — he a lonely bank clerk, she the neglected wife of a sea captain — who fall scandalously in love through their shared literary and political interests.

10 20 CITY GENERAL: It Promised So Much. Stoke City General Hospital's former workers remember the exciting post-war days of advance and development under the new NHS.

10 50 THIS IS MY AFFAIR. Robert Taylor leads this 1937 crime thriller as a turn-of-the-century secret agent posing as a bank robber on Presidential orders. 12 40.

S4C: 2 5 pm The Living Body. 2 35 In Search of Paradise. 3 0 Union World. 3 30 Film: The Gunfighter (1950). With Gregory Peck. 5 0 Piglets and Cream. 5 30 The Business Programme. 6 15 Basketball. 7 20 Newyddion Amaeth. 7 25 Newyddion. 7 30 Hafod Henri. 8 0 Penyberth. 9 50 Hill Street Blues. 10 50 As the Years Pass, As the Days Pass. 11 55 Shape of the World. 12 40 am Diwedd.

Anglia

6 55 As London.
9 30 Perspective.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Getting On.
11 30 Crafts Made Simple.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 Just Our Luck.
1 25 Weather Trends.
1 30 Farming Diary.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Julian of Norwich: close.

Central

6 55 As London.
9 25 Wattoo, Wattoo.
9 30 The Flying Kiwi.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Getting On.
11 30 Crafts Made Simple.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 Star Fleet.
1 30 Here and Now.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Close.

Channel

6 55 As London.
9 25 Close.
12 55 Weather: Starting Point.
1 0 Gardens for All.
1 30 Link.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Weather: close.

Granada

6 55 As London.
9 25 Miniature Chess Masterpieces.
9 35 Window on the World.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Crafts Made Simple.
11 25 Aap Kaa Hak.
11 30 Down To Earth.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 The Champions.
2 0 Ecounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Close.

HTV

6 15 As London.
9 25 Home Cookery Club.
9 30 The Making of a Crew.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Getting On.
11 30 Crafts Made Simple.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 Cup Rugby.
1 30 West Country Farming.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Weather: close.

Wales: As West except: 9 30-10 0 am Encounter. 1 0-1 30 pm Darts. 2 0-2 30 Celebration.

South

6 55 As London.
9 25 Action Line.
9 35 Atom Ant.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Getting On.
11 30 Crafts Made Simple.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 Agenda.
1 30 Enterprise South.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Company: close.

South-West

6 55 As London.
9 30 Getting On.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Crafts Made Simple.
11 25 Look and See.
11 30 Farming News.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 Gardens for All.
1 30 The South-west Week.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Postscript; weather: close.

Tyne-Tees

6 55 As London.
9 25 Morning Glory.
9 30 Getting On.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Crafts Made Simple.
11 25 Lookaround.
11 30 Batman.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 Farming Outlook.
1 30 Extra Time.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Reg Guy Singers of Hartlepool: close.

Yorkshire

6 15 As London.
9 25 Getting On.
10 0 Morning Worship.
10 45 God's Story.
11 0 Crafts Made Simple.
11 30 Farming Diary.
12 0 Weekend World.
1 0 Henson's Place — Home of the Muppets.
2 0 Encounter.
2 30 The Big Match.
3 15 As London.
12 30 Five Minutes; close.

Radio 1

6 0 am Mark Page. 8 0 Peter Powell. 10 0 Steve Wright. 12 30 pm Jimmy Savile's "Old Record" Club: 1968-1978. 2 30 Adrian Juste. 4 30 The Great Rock 'n' Roll Trivia Quiz. 5 0 Top 40. 7 0 Anne Nightingale. 9 0 Robbie Vincent. 11 0-12 0 midnight Gary Byrd's Sweet Inspirations.

Radio 2

4 0 am Arthur Murphy. 6 0 George Ferguson. 7 30 Paul McDowell. 9 0 Melodies for You. 11 0 Desmond Carrington. 1 0 pm Ken Bruce Presents Two's Best. 2 0 Benny Green. 3 0 Alan Dell: Sounds Easy. 4 0 Listen to Les. 4 30 Sing Something Simple. 5 0 Charlie Chester. 6 30 Vintage Sporting Years: 1961. 7 0 Cynthia Glover Sings. 7 30 Glamorous Nights. 8 30 Sunday Half-Hour. 9 0 Your Hundred Best Tunes. 10 5 Songs from the Shows. 10 45 Gordon Langford. 11 0 Sounds of Jazz. 1 0 am Peter Dickson. 3 0-4 0 Ken Bruce Presents Two's Best.

Radio 3

6 55 Weather; News: Mozart and Ravel. Ravel.
8 0 Schnabel's Schubert. Artur and Karl Ulrich Schnabel play a March for piano duet: Sonata in D; Rondo for piano duet.
9 0 News: Your Concert Choice. C. P. E. Bach: Symphony in B flat (English Concert / Pinnock): Handel: Spring is Coming (Kathleen Ferrier / Gerald Moore): Dvorak: Sonatina (Josef Suk, violin. Alfred Holecek, piano); Bruckner: String Quintet in F (Amadeus / Cecil Aronowitz).
10 30 Music Weekly.
11 15 From the Proms 1984: BBC PO/Downes, Irina Arkhipova (mezzo). Delius: Paris, Song of a Great City: Brian Elias: L'Eylah.
12 0 Penge Papers by Brian Wright (2).
12 15 Concert, part 2. Mussorgsky, arr. Shostakovich: Songs and Dances of Death; Tchaikovsky: Francesca da Rimini.
1 5 Cello Sonatas (Raphael Sommer / Daniel Adni). Pfitzner: Sonata Op. 1; Martinu: Sonata No. 2.
2 0 Berlin PO/Karajan, Pierre Cochereau (organ). Wagner: Prelude, Parsifal Act 1: Saint-Saens: Symphony No. 3.
3 0 Berg and Brahms Piano Sonatas. Peter Donohoe.
3 40 French Music for Piano and Wind. Richard Adeney (flute), Neil Black (oboe), Thea King (clarinet), William Waterhouse (bassoon), David Johns (piano). Saint-Saens: Caprice on Danish and Russian Airs; Poulenc: Trio; Lennox Berkeley: Piece for flute, clarinet and bassoon); Magnard: Quintet.
4 45 Hermann Prey and Helmut Deutsch (baritone and Piano). Songs by Carl Loewe.
5 30 Finding What's There. Conversation with Prof. Dorothy Hodgkin.
6 0 Peter Maxwell Davies. BBC SO/Howarth, Elizabeth Parcells (sop.). St Thomas Wake; A Stone Litany; (6 50 Interval); Worldes Blis.
7 45 The Duck Shoot. Play by Alexander Vampilov.
9 5 CBSO/Rattle, Iona Brown (violin). Britten: Canadian Carnival; Bartok: Violin Concerto No. 2.
10 0 Letter from Taiwan by A. H. Halsey.
10 20 CBSO, part 2. Rachmaninov: Symphonic Dances.
11 0 Melos Quartet of Stuttgart. Hindemith Quartet No. 2: Beethoven Quartet Op. 95. 11 57 News.

Radio 4

5 55 Shipping Forecast.
6 0 News Briefing.
6 10 Prelude. 6 30 News: Morning Has Broken.
7 0 News: Sunday Papers; 7 15 Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye; 7 45 Bells; 7 50 Turning over New Leaves.
8 0 News: Sunday Papers.
8 15 Sunday.
8 50 Week's Good Cause: Survival International.
9 0 News: Sunday Papers.
9 15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9 30 Morning Service.
10 15 The Archers. Omnibus edition.
11 15 Weekend.
12 0 Smash of the Day: In All Directions. 1955 comedy with Peter Ustinov.
12 30 The Food Programme. Food from Japan.
1 0 *The World this Weekend: News*
2 0 News: Gardeners' Question Time from Nottinghamshire.
2 30 Afternoon Play: The Other Other Woman. Drama by Aileen La Tourette.
3 50 Through My Window: Lord Denning's Hampshire view.
4 0 News; Origins: Roman wine trade in Provence.
4 30 The Living World.
5 0 News: Down Your Way in Braintree, Essex.
6 0 News.
6 15 Feedback.
6 30 Bookshelf.
7 0 The Great Impersonation by E. Phillips Oppenheim. Drama serial (4).
7 30 Words, Words, Words. Ian McKellen's poetry choice.
7 50 A Voice Crying in the Wilderness. Lent talk about the prophets.
8 5 Law in Action. Legal issues.
8 30 Central American Journey: 2: Guatemala.
9 0 News; Cousin Bazilio by Eca De Querioz. Drama serial (4).
10 0 News.
10 15 Missionary in Peking. Letters from Ethel Wilding, who arrrived in China in 1926.
11 0 The Savage Pilgrimage. 4: Beyond Catholicism.
11 15 Inside Parliament. 12 0 News: weather; shipping.

VHF: 6 45-7 45 am Open University. 4 0-6 pm Study on 4.

Wales (340m): 4 0 am As Radio 2. 8 0 As Radio 4. 8 10 Celebration. 8 40 Letter from America. 9 5 All Things Considered. 9 32 Landmark. 10 0 The Geevers Selection. 10 30 Getaway. 10 45 Sounds Unforgettable. 12 3 pm Radio Brynsiencyn. 12 30 First Edition. 1 15 Male Voice Choir Competition. 2 0 On Show. 2 30 Born 1685 — J. S. Bach. 3 30 In Performance. 4 2 As Radio 4. 4 30-As Cymru. 5 0 As Radio 4. 12 0-4 0 am-As Radio 2.

Cymru (VHF): 5 55 am Weather: Gweler Radio 4. 6 45 Open University. 7 45 Gweler Radio 4. 8 0 Newyddion: Papurau 8 10 Bore Sul. 9 0 Newyddion: Papurau. 9 10 Segura. 9 50 Piniwn. 10 30 Fresgo. 11 2 Cywair. 11 45 Oedfa'r Bore. 12 23 pm Wythnos i'w Chofio. 1 0 O'r Newydd. 1 40 Byw yn y Wlad. 2 0 Cerddwn Ymlaen. 2 30 Gweler Wales. 4 2 Byd Natur. 4 30 Caniadaeth y Cysegr. 5 0 Canllaw. 5 30 Dewch am Dro. 6 0 Gweler Radio 4. 7 30 Sain yr Utgorn. 8 0 Handel: Ei Fywyd a'i Waith. 8 45 Gwyn Erfyl. 9 15 Rhwng Gwyl a Gwaith. 10 3 Talwrn y Beirdd. 10 45 Ar Derfyn Dydd. 11 0-Close Gweler Radio 4.

Scotland (370m): 6 30 am As Radio 4. 7 45 Letter from America. 8 0 As Radio 4. 8 10 Howard Lockhart's Greetings Programme. 8 55 Appeal. 9 0 News: Let Us Worship. 10 0 News: Just for Fun. 10 30 Seven Days. 11 20 Andy Cameron. 1 0 News: Gerry Davis. 2 0 News. Portrait. 2 30 The John Kerr Interview. 2 50 Tales of the Hills. 3 0 News: Prospect. 3 30 The Musical Garden. 4 30 Case and Paper. 5 0 News: As Radio 4. 5 50 Sunday Extra: 6 0-Close As Radio 4.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648kHz (463m) at the following times GMT: 6 0 am Newsdesk. 7 0 News. 7 9 Twenty-Four Hours. 7 30 From Our Own Correspondent. 7 50 Letter from London. 8 0 News. 8 9 Reflections. 8 15 The Pleasure's Yours. 9 0 News. 9 9 British Press Review. 9 15 Sports Review. 9 45 In Spite of Ourselves. 10 0 News: Short Story. 10 15 Classical Record Review. 10 30 Sunday Service. 11 0 News. 11 9 News about Britain. 11 15 From Our Own Correspondent. 12 0 noon News: Play of the Week: A Captive Lion. 1 0 pm News. 1 9 Twenty Four Hours. 1 30 Puckoon. 1 45 The Sandi Jones Request Show. 2 0 News Summary. 2 30 Wives and Daughters. 3 0 Radio Newsreel. 3 15 Concert Hall. 4 0 News. 4 9 Commentary. 4 15 Time Remembered. 4 45 Letter from America. 5 0 News. 5 9 Meridian. 5 40 Reflections. 8 0 News. 9 15 The Pleasure's Yours. 10 0 News. 10 9 Medicine in the Third World. 10 25 Words. 10 30 Financial Review. 10 40 Reflections. 10 45 Sports Roundup. 11 0 News. 11 9 Commentary. 11 15 Letter from America. 11 30 Time Remembered. 12 0 midnight News. 12 9 am News about Britain. 12 15 Radio Newsreel. 12 30 Religious Service. 1 0 News. Bedtime Story. 1 45 The Classical Guitar. 2 0 News. 2 9 British Press Review. 2 15 Good Books. 2 30 Music Now. 3 0 News. 3 9 News about Britain. 3 15 Mediterranean dialogue. 3 30 Anything Goes. 4 0 Newsdesk. 4 30 Puckoon. 5 45 Recording of the Week.

صورة من الأصل

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

UDDY, it's the big one, but I'll keep it a secret. Love Uddy.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

MARRIOTT-CARTER. — On February 24, 1945, at St George's, Headstone, JAN to MAY. Now at 105 Offington Avenue, Worthing, Sussex.

DEATHS

HALL. — On Feb. 19, 1985, in the loving care of St Ann's Hospice, HELEN McLEOD HALL, Hon. M.A. of Manchester University and for many years Secretary of the Faculty of Economics and Social Studies, beloved Wife of the late Alec Hall, of Dale House, Stalybridge, and loving Mother of Timothy and Caroline. Funeral service at Dukinfield Crematorium on Monday, Feb. 25, at 4 pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to: St Ann's Hospice, 90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2GH. Inquiries to Jonathan Alcock & Sons Ltd., tel. 061-428 2097.

LOCKETT (CYRIL). — On Feb 20, 1985, fortified by the rites of Holy Mother Church, dear Father of Keith, loved Grandad of Paul, Martin, Michael, Nicholas and Christian. Requiem Mass at St Ann's Church, Stretford, Monday, Feb 25, at 9.15 am. Committal Manchester Crematorium 10.15 am. RIP. No flowers, donations to Cafod if desired. Inqs to: Francis Fay, 061-865 2182.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ART GALLERIES & EXHIBITIONS

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BANKSIDE GALLERY OPEN EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY PRINTS 1985 with RE Spring Exhibition includes works by Ackroyd, Greenwood, Rothenstein RA. Feb 7-Mar 3. Art Event Day, Saturday, Feb 23, 11-5.30. Gallery Open Tues-Sat. 10-5. Sun. 2-6. Closed Mons. Admission £1. Concess. 50p. 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1. Tel.: 01-928 7521.

BARBICAN ART GALLERY, Barbican Centre EC2. (01-638 4141). MUNCH AND THE WORKERS plus TRADITION AND RENEWAL: Contemporary Art in the German Democratic Republic, until April 8. Admission £1 50 & 75p, reduced rates for pre-booked parties. Open Tues.-Sat. 10 am-6.45 pm, Sun. & Bank Hols. 12-5.45 pm. Closed Mon., except B. Hols.

TATE GALLERY, Millbank SW1. ST IVES, 1939-64: 25 years of painting, sculpture and pottery. Until April 14. Adm £1.50. WILLIAM JAMES MULLER: Watercolours. Until March 17. JOHN WALKER: Prints 1976-84. Until March 24. Adm. free. Recorded info 01-821 7128.

HAYWARD GALLERY (Arts Council), South Bank, London SE1. RENOIR. Until April 21. Mon.-Wed 10-8. Thurs-Sat. 10-6. Sun. 12-6. Adm £2.50: Concessionary rate £1.50 and for everybody all day Mon., Tues. & Wed., 6-8 p.m. Recorded info. 01-261 0127.

BRITISH LIBRARY / BRITISH MUSEUM, Great Russell Street, WC1. ANGLO-SAXON ART 966 - 1066. Weekdays 10-5. Sunday 2.30-6. Admission £2. Recorded info. 01-580 1788.

SERPENTINE GALLERY, (ARTS COUNCIL), Kensington Gardens, W2. RECALLING THE FIFTIES. Until March 3. Recorded info 01-723 9072. Daily 10-5. Free.

MUSEUM OF MANKIND, Burlington Gardens, W1. INUIT-ESKIMO: People of the North American Arctic. Mon-Sat. 10-5. Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.

STAMPEX 1985. Britain's National Stamp Exhibition. Feb. 26-March 3 — Royal Horticultural Society, S.W.1.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Kensington. JOHN FRENCH FASHION PHOTOGRAPHER. Until March 17. Adm. £1. Library closed until March 5. Wkdys. 10-5.50. Suns. 2.30-5.50. Closed Fridays. Recorded info. 01-581 4894.

MORE PERSONAL APPEARS ON PAGE 26

QUICK CROSSWORD No. 4,642



ACROSS
5 Royal flower (5, 4).
8 Shallow basket for gardening (4).
9 Time off for refreshment (3-5).
10 Fierce person with cream! (6).
11 The Mikado's sword (6).
13 Island off Kent (6).
14 Fever (6).
16 Honest in what one says (8).
18 One of a similar pair (4).
19 Dissect (4, 5) or act (4, 1, 4).

DOWN
1 Metal for lamp filaments (8).
2 Nearly fall (6).
3 Absentee (6).
4 Emperor of Russia (4).
6 Violation of faith (9).
7 (Sheet of) waterproof cloth (9).
12 Providers of inside information? (8).
14 Sweet stuff (for snob's nose?) (6).
15 Flowers to tiptoe through? (6).
17 Set of oxen or games players (4).

Solution No. 4,641
Across: 5 Tennis elbow; 7 Jeep; 8 Solitude; 9 Chuckle; 11 Quail; 13 Plait; 14 Postage; 16 Whip-lash; 17 Goad; 18 Gun-carriage.
Down: 1 Snap; 2 Missile; 3 Jelly; 4 Obstruct; 5 The whole hog; 6 Wedding cake; 10 Chipping; 12 Cow-herd; 15 Cabal; 17 Grab.

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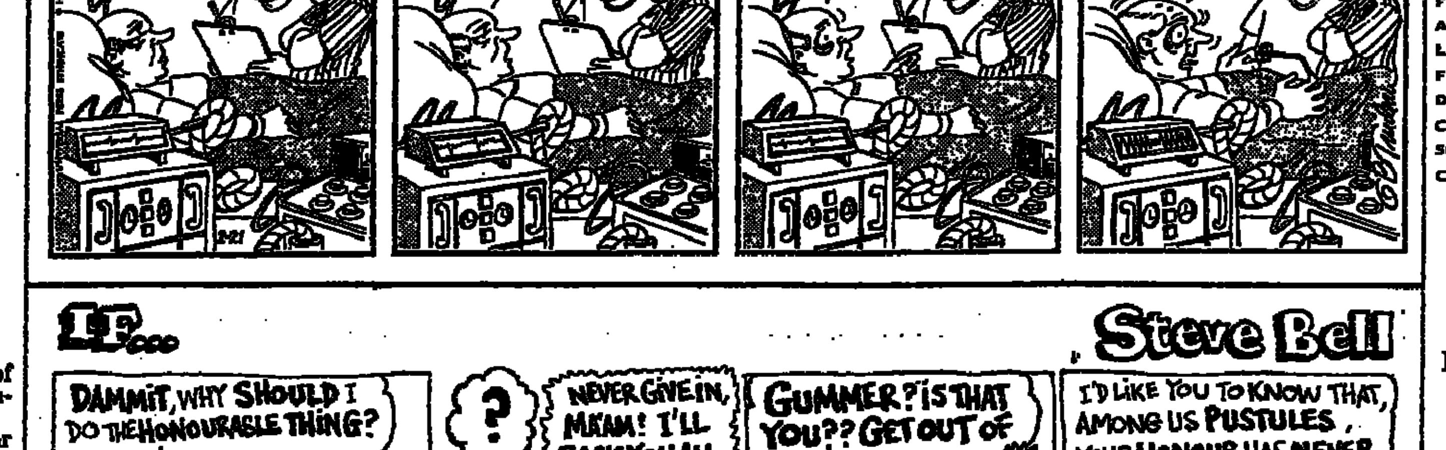
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Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Steve Bell



Effect of mortgage, petrol and gas increases yet to be felt

Freeze helps to push inflation rate to 5 pc

By Christopher Huhne
Economics Editor

Retail prices rose 5 per cent in the year to January, compared with an annual inflation rate of 4.6 per cent in December — which may prove to be a low point.

The effects of the recent 1 per cent rise in mortgage rates, petrol price increases, and gas tariff rises have yet to be felt in the figures, while cost pressures due to the falling pound are already apparent. Pay settlements, the largest element of costs, also appear to be rising gently.

Most independent forecasters expect the inflation rate to stay above 5 per cent during the next six months, though the range of predictions for the end of this year varies from the Treasury's 4½ per cent to the National Institute's 6½ per cent.

Half the 0.4 per cent rise in the Retail Price Index between December and January was attributable to the sharp increase in fruit and vegetable prices because of the freeze. Though some clothing and household goods fell in price during the sales, price rises were recorded for wines, spirits, books and some newspapers.

Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, said yesterday that short term fluctuations in the Retail Price Index were to be expected, but that this was "the seventh month in succession for which the annual rate of inflation has been at or below 5 per cent."

His statement underlines ministerial concern about pay, with more than three-quarters of employees still to settle this round's claims.

The pay trend comes as manufacturers are less able to absorb increased costs, since the growth of productivity is slowing. Recent figures show unit wage costs in manufacturing rising by 5.6 per cent in the year to the fourth quarter, compared with an average rise of 4 per cent in 1983 and 1.6 per cent in 1982.

Though companies benefit overall from the falling pound, it does mean steeply rising fuel and raw material costs. Excluding food, drink and tobacco, materials costs rose by 12.8 per cent in the year to January and factory gate prices rose by 6.3 per cent.

Yesterday's Tax and Price Index, which measures the increase people need in gross earnings to maintain their purchasing power, rose by 3.8 cent in the year to January. The underlying increase in earnings, including overtime payments, was 7½ per cent in December, suggesting real purchasing power gains for those in work of around 4 per cent over the year.

Brittan challenged on phone-taps

By James Naughtie and David Hearst

THE Government was challenged last night to allow a committee of senior Privy Councillors to investigate allegations of improper telephone tapping by the security service, MI5.

Mr John Cartwright, SDP MP for Woolwich, wrote to the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, expressing dissatisfaction with ministerial assurances about the extent of phone tapping.

He said Mr Brittan should make an early statement to the Commons on the allegations made by former MI5 officers in the documentary made for Channel 4's 20-20 Vision programme, but not shown because of an Independent Broadcasting Authority ban.

Mr Cartwright said there should also be an investigation by Privy Councillors into the allegations that organisations and individuals were put under surveillance though they were no threat to national security.

The Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, was also pressed last night to give an assurance that Miss Cathy Massiter, the former MI5 intelligence officer whose allegations formed the heart of the television documentary, would not be prosecuted under Section 2 of the Officials Secrets Act.

Mr David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North and a member of the select committee on home affairs which has investigated the Special Branch, said he would ask the Attorney-General about the likelihood of a prosecution, which could be used to muzzle debate in the Commons.



John Cartwright — dissatisfied with assurances



Leon Brittan — 'strict criteria'



Cathy Massiter — allegations in film

A senior legal official of the Director of Public Prosecutions viewed the film yesterday. A spokesman said that investigations were continuing.

The film's producers said they were considering hiring a public theatre in London, so that the film could be shown to the public. Claudia Milne, co-producer of the documentary, said they intended to go on tour around Britain showing the film in big towns.

In his letter, Mr Cartwright was responding to a letter from Mr Brittan in which the Home Secretary reiterated the ground rules for telephone tapping by MI5 and repeated that he was fully satisfied that the security service was "absolutely free from political bias and influence."

Mr Brittan stuck firmly to the Government's refusal to confirm or deny whether any interception had taken place in a particular case. But he made a clear distinction between the surveillance of individuals and organisations in response to the allegations that trade unions and CND had been subject to surveillance.

"I have made clear on a number of occasions that peaceful political campaigning to change the mind of the Government or people generally about political issues cannot constitute subversion.

"This is particularly relevant because a number of the allegations have been in connection with CND. Similar considerations apply in relation to trade unions and their members," he said.

No individual need fear surveillance unless his or her options or intentions brought him within the strict criteria set out in the guidelines — a threat to the safety of the state, and an intention to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy.

Mr Cartwright said such a reassurances were not adequate in the light of the detailed allegations made in the programme, which has been seen by MPs. "Had I never seen the programme I might have been prepared to accept the Home Secretary's assurances," Mr Cartwright said.

"The evidence of the programme is that reassurances about the past activities of the security service had not been adequate. I cannot see why such reassurances should be blindly accepted for the future."

Either guidelines had been broken without ministerial knowledge, or MI5 had been used for political purposes.

Mr Brittan said in his letter that he was anxious to assure MPs that telephone tapping was designed to deal with genuine threats to the state or from the actions of those people or organisations "which may be judged subversive to the state."

Ministers will be questioned further about the programme next week. Many Opposition MPs are determined to try to force the Government to be more specific in its assurances, though there is determination in Whitehall to resist such invitations.

The traditional refusal to discuss in detail the operations of any of the security or intelligence agencies appears as strong as ever.

However, an opportunity for detailed discussion of the issues raised by the programme will come in the debate on the bill to regulate the interception of communications which is likely to have its second reading the week after next.

The committee stage of the bill, in particular, will give MPs a chance to discuss in detail the guidelines under which interception is authorised by ministers. The Government is proposing a tribunal to handle complaints about unauthorised interception.

According to the white paper on the interception of communications in the UK published earlier this month, 235 warrants for telephone interceptions authorised by the Home Secretary or the Scottish Secretary were in force at the end of last year.

A further 98 warrants signed by the Foreign Secretary were still in operation. During the year, 538 warrants had been signed, the white paper said.

Asbestos caused death of docker's widow

By Sarah Boseley

The wife of an east London docker died of a rare cancer usually caused by asbestos, after years of washing her husband's asbestos-covered work clothes, a coroner said yesterday.

He husband, who regularly used to unload asbestos at the West India docks in the 1960s, died of the same cancer — mesothelioma — in 2981, aged 69.

Dr Charles Clarke, sitting in Colchester coroner's court, declared that Mrs Winifred Willson, aged 73, of Kirby le Soken, Essex, had died "as the result of an industrial disease."

The Society for the Prevention of Asbestosis and Industrial Diseases yesterday hailed the ruling.

Dr Clarke, who presided over the inquest of Mrs Willson's husband, Joseph, four years ago, instructed the Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel to investigate the causes of her death.

Dr John Stewart, a consultant pathologist at the County Hospital in Colchester, carried out the post-mortem. He told the court that the panel had reported that the tumour was "malignant mesothelioma" and "related to past exposure to asbestos," which coincided with his own findings.

The dead couple's only child, Mr Peter Willson, aged 46, told the court that his mother had suffered from a chest illness for two and a half years. He said: "The only place my mother could be exposed to asbestos would be from 1950 to 1960 when my father worked in the West India Docks unloading it. The dust on his clothes was transferred to the household and my mother handled the clothes when wtshing or brushing them."

After the coroner had given his verdict, Mr Willson said he would seek compensation for his mother's deeth agtinst the Port of London Authority, alleging it had been negligent in inadequately informing dockers of the dangers of handling asbestos.

His mother had agreed to accept £4,000 compensation for the loss of her husbtnd, near the end of her own life. The money had not yet been paid, Mr Willson said.

Reagan fluffs lines

Continued from page one

signing Nicaragua to the endless darkness of communist tyranny. And they are leading the United States down a path of greater danger"

As the White House press corps sifted through Mr Reagan's press conference, the other remark which attracted attention as showing an excess of condour was his reply to suggestions that he had allowed the Russians to walk all over his administration by violating the Salt II treaty limitations.

The President cited Soviet nuclear submarines, which had been taken out of commission, rebuilt, and armed with cruise missiles as such a breach — though this was technicaly being disputtd here yesterday.

He also admitted that the US programme of Trident nuclear submarines would soon reach the agreed limit if older subs were not retired.

THE GUARDIAN PRIZE PUZZLE 17,168

APEX

A £20 cash prize will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution opened, and three book tokens, each of £10, for the next three. Send your entry to Guardian Crossword No. 17,168, The Guardian, 164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2RR, to arrive not later than first post on Thursday next week. Solution and winners' names in The Guardian on Monday, March 4.

Name.....

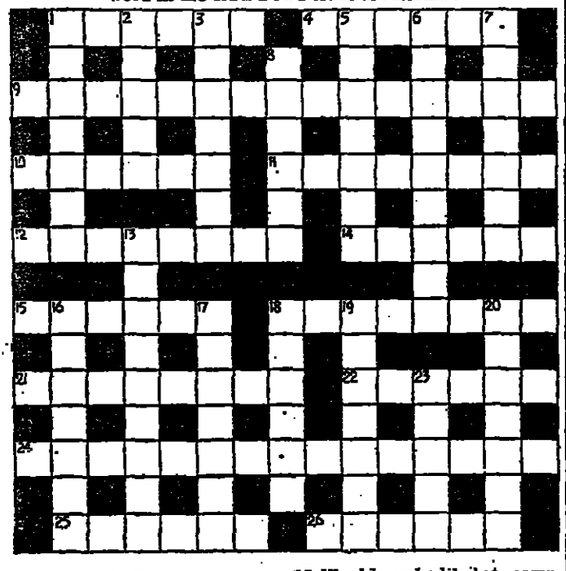
Address.....

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WHAT'S MY ——— ?

Each across clue, which should be regarded as a question being asked in order to discover the occupation of a contestant in a Panel Game, contains a mixture of the letters of the required answer beginning with the beginning or ending with the end of a word in the clue. Down clues are normal.



ACROSS

1 Could you prescribe something for a wretched comedian? (6).
4 Would you chat up a model before starting work? (6).
9 Was a Skegness rector worsted by your devilish work? (9, 6).
10 Would you bar Russians from the Treasury? (6).
11 Would you set poems or couplets to music? (8).
12 Could you be sent off if you offended ref? (8).
14 Are you a member of the Ulster Constabulary? (6).
15 Did you sell herbs at rock-bottom prices? (6).
18 Would you find a flat suitable for your work? (8).
21 Do you use meat in producing your speciality? (8).

DOWN

1 To damage and almost spoil a tent (7).
2 Cooks gobbling up second portions (5).
3 We are stuffing a fish that's shrunk (7).
5 Forecaster upset about result starts again (7).
6 To turn in fashionable car in race (9).
7 Theatre to be rebuilt on that site? (7).
8 One who follows a projectile (6).
13 Would-be Houdinis destroyed its spaces (9).
16 Almost neat drink for tenor (7).
17 Pity about the carpenter's mate (7).
18 Topping piece I tucked into last (6).
19 Poet not the first to be floridly rhetorical (7).
20 Poet employer not the first to pocket pounds (7).
22 Would you be likely to camp near Great Yarmouth? (6).
24 Do you give tints a trial — or soap, perhaps? (3, 6).
25 Would you start each day by sampling things? (6).
26 Do you skip through pages which are dreadfully boring? (6).

CROSSWORD SOLUTION 17,167

H	E	R	E	B	Y	■	C	O	W	H	E	R	D	
U	■	O	■	E	■	S	■	R	■	E	■	L	■	T
S	O	U	N	D	S	■	T	H	E	■	A	L	A	R	M
T	■	N	■	F	■	U	■	A	■	R	■	B	■	T
L	E	D	G	E	■	P	U	S	S	Y	F	O	O	T
E	■	L	■	E	■	C	■	T	■	R	■	Y	■	
R	E	G	U	L	A	R	■	S	U	B	W	A	Y	
■	■	O	■	■	■	E	■	■	■	E	■	■	■	
■	C	L	A	W	E	D	■	T	E	T	E	R	S	
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E	M	E	R	G	E	N	C	Y	■	S	A	M	B	A
A	■	O	■	D	■	M	■	T	E	R	■	■	■	
T	H	R	O	W	■	I	N	■	O	N	E	S	■	L
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R	I	D	D	I	N	G	S	■	S	K	I	N	N	Y

Rush led to risk of cancer

By Paul Brown

The rush to produce materials for nuclear weapons led to emissions of thyroid-cancer-inducing iodine 131 at the Windscale reprocessing plant in 1953, according to a document discovered in the Public Record Office.

The plant, then operated by the Ministry of Supply, was involved in the race to produce materials for Britain's nuclear weapons programme and re-processed fuel from nuclear reactors when it was still hot.

Greenpeace researchers found an environmental report showing that rabbits, sheep and children had ingested quantities of iodine 131 as a result of airborne emissions from the plant.

Yesterday British Nuclear Fuels Ltd, which did not become responsible for re-processing until 1971, issued a statement saying that the National Radiological Protection Board had been told of the report.

BNFL was not aware of the report until it was de-classified under the 30-year rule and drawn to the attention of the company by Greenpeace.

The company's view is that the re-processing exposed members of the public to about half the safe limit of iodine 131.

Greenpeace disagree with the company's figures. George Pritchard, the Greenpeace nuclear campaigner says that the two farmer's children monitored had just under the maximum limit of iodine 131 in their urine. In 1959 the safe limit was reduced to one third of the 1953 level.

Efforts to trace the children concerned have failed,

Sizewell inquiry, page 3

Thatcher deflated as dollar soars to new heights after Reagan speech

Continued from page one

US policies, suggested that Britain and other European trading partners "have a ways to go in changing some rigidities in their customs, their methods of doing business, and in industry."

He argued that what was needed was for the recovery in the rest of the world to catch up with that in the United States. What Mr Reagan failed to note was that by forcing up interest rates elsewhere the dollar's rise was, in effect, slowing the international upturn.

The President's comments appeared to fly in the face of the developing view in his own administration that the US currency is overvalued. The US Treasury yesterday sought to steady the markets by saying that there had been no change in official policy, and pointed out that it stood by ready to intervene should such action be necessary. By the time the Treasury spoke up, however, much of the damage seemed to have been done.

"Reagan's pep talk just blew our charts off the wall," said an analyst at the First National Bank of Boston. He said that as a result of the President's words, the dollar had breached a number of psychological barriers against other leading currencies.

The strength of the dollar and its adverse impact on the European economies was an important theme of Mrs Thatcher's talks in Washington, but apart from wringing their hands and addressing the longer term issue of the US budget deficit—expected to top $200 billion in the current financial year—the two leaders came up with no fresh ideas on how to deal with the dollar.

Whitehall believes that the January agreement between the group of five industrial finance ministers to concert their intervention against the dollar which to fall, with all the attendant political embarrassment within the US.



Mrs Thatcher leaves an RAF VC-10 at Heathrow yesterday on her return from Washington. Her flight was delayed because of a threat of freezing fog in London.

still holds, but the foreign exchange markets are deeply sceptical.

There is a deepening fear in Whitehall and the City that although the Americans have intervened a little, a full-scale assault on the dollar is increasingly unlikely the higher it goes. This is because if intervention did work—which many still doubt—it could snowball, and the currency would have an even higher point from

Money market interest rates in the City rose yesterday, but so far the strength of the pound against currencies other than the dollar has been a restraint, though a base rate cut may be delayed beyond budget day

The Bank of England is injecting £5 billion of short-term money into the banking system to help control interest rates

NUT court rebuff

Continued from page one

of-hours staff and parents' meetings.

A spokesman for the Council of Local Education Authorities said: "I think without a doubt this must encourage some other authorities to take a similar line to Solihull.

Mr Justice Warner granted a separate injunction to Solihull, outlawing in the borough's schools the half-day strike called by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, for Tuesday.

The NAS/UWT, which had not balloted its 600 members in Solihull before calling on them to join the national action was not represented in court.

It, too, will obey the order and will also start to ballot its members in Solihull on Monday.

Miners to see TUC

Continued from page one

Thatcher believe that a long period of guerrilla action by miners who had returned to work in an organised move without an agreement signed, could pose severe problems for the NCB and the Government. As a result, some members of the cabinet are not yet ready to predict victory over Mr Scargill.

The Government has made it clear that it does not intend to sponsor any negotiations and after the rejection of the proposals conveyed to the miners by Mr Willis it sees little alternative to simply stepping up its criticism of Mr Scargill.

The coal board is predicting a big return to work on Monday on the basis of yesterday's total of 456, which sompares with 93 the previous Friday and 877 on Friday, November 23. The board is advertising in the popular Sunday papers to state its position and underline the number that have already gone back: some 57,000 its says.

The NUM accused the board of distorting the figures and said between 130,000 and 140,000 of its 196,000 members were on strike.

Yesterday's figures were the highest yet claimed on a Friday for Scotland (66) and South Wales (15) and the highest since November for Yorkshire (92) North Derbyshire (86) and the Western Area (73). The highest figure was again in the North-east (123). The board claimed a total return for the week of 2,258 compared with 1,175 last week.

THE WEATHER

Cloudy but dry

PRESSURE will be high to the southwest of the British Isles as a frontal trough approaches western Scotland from the Atlantic.

London, SE, Cent S, SW England, E Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Rather cloudy, some sunny intervals, dry, wind variable becoming southwest light. Max 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

W Midlands, Wales, NW England: Rather cloudy, dry, wind southwest, moderate or fresh. Max 6 to 9C (43 to 46F).

E, Cent N, NE England: Sunny intervals, mostly dry, wind southwest moderate. Max 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, N Ireland: Rather cloudy, a little rain or drizzle, some bright intervals, wind southwest fresh or strong locally gale. Max 6 to 8c (43 to 46F).

NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, occasional rain and drizzle, mist and coastal fog, wind southwest strong to gale. Max 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Outlook: Little change.

TODAY

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

Belfast	6.17 pm to 6.57 am
Birmingham	6.04 pm to 6.36 am
Bristol	6.09 pm to 6.37 am
Glasgow	6.07 pm to 6.53 am
London	5.59 pm to 6.27 am
Manchester	6.04 pm to 6.40 am
Newcastle	5.58 pm to 6.40 am
Nottingham	6.01 pm to 6.35 am

HIGH-TIDE TABLE

London Bridge	3.55 am	4.20 pm
Dover	12.57 am	1.13 pm
Liverpool	1.10 am	1.24 pm
SUN RISES		8.59 am
SUN SETS		5.29 pm
MOON RISES		8.32 am
MOON SETS		9.35 pm

MOON: First quarter February 27.

TOMORROW

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

Belfast	6.19 pm to 6.56 am
Birmingham	6.06 pm to 6.36 am
Bristol	6.11 pm to 6.35 am
Glasgow	6.09 pm to 6.50 am
London	6.01 pm to 6.27 am
Manchester	6.06 pm to 6.37 am
Newcastle	6.00 pm to 6.37 am
Nottingham	6.03 pm to 6.33 am

HIGH-TIDE TABLE

London Bridge	4.24 am	4.49 pm
Dover	1.38 am	1.48 pm
Liverpool	1.38 am	1.52 pm
SUN RISES		8.57 am
SUN SETS		5.31 pm
MOON RISES		8.43 am
MOON SETS		10.44 pm

MOON: First quarter February 27.

AROUND THE WORLD

	C	F		C	F
Ajaccio	S 12	54	London	C 3	37
Algiers	C 13	55	*L. Angeles	C 12	54
Amsterdam	C 2	36	Luxembourg	F 1	34
Athens	C 9	48	Madrid	F 1	34
*Barbados	S 29	84	Majorca	S 13	55
Barcelona	S 11	52	Malaga	S 15	59
Belgrade	S 3	37	Malta	C 13	55
Beirut	F 12	54	Manchester	C 3	37
*Bermuda	C 21	70	*Mexico C	F 20	68
Berlin	C 2	36	Milan	S 7	45
Biarritz	S 10	50	*Montreal	Sn -1	30
Birmingham	C 3	37	Moscow	F -6	21
Bombay	S 34	93	Munich	C 0	32
Bordeaux	S 9	48	Naples	S 9	48
Boston	S 4	39	*Nassau	S 26	79
Boulogne	C 4	39	Newcastle	C 3	37
Bristol	C 5	41	New Delhi	S 19	66
Brussels	C 2	36	*New York	S 2	36
Budapest	S -3	27	Nice	S 12	54
B Aires	F 35	95	Oporto	F 13	55
Cardiff	C 5	41	Oslo	Sn -6	21
Cairo	C 15	59	Paris	S 3	37
*Chicago	S 3	37	Peking	S -1	30
Cologne	C 3	37	Prague	Sn -1	30
Copenhagen	C -3	27	Reykjavik	Sn 1	34
Corfu	F 9	48	Riyadh	S 20	68
Dublin	S 9	48	Rhodes	S 9	48
Dubrovnik	S 9	48	*Rio d Jan	S 32	90
Edinburgh	S 5	41	Rome	S 12	54
Faro	F 14	57	Singapore	S 32	?
Florence	S 8	46	Salzburg	C 2	36
Frankfurt	C 1	34	Seoul	F -4	25
Funchal	C 15	59	Stockholm	Sn -3	27
Geneva	C 0	32	Strasbourg	C 1	34
Gibraltar	S 15	59	Sydney	F 27	81
Glasgow	S 5	41	Tangier	F 17	63
Helsinki	Sn -5	23	Tel Aviv	F 13	55
Hong Kong	C 17	63	Tokyo	S 6	43
Innsbruck	F 4	39	Tunis	C 15	59
Inverness	F 6	43	Valencia	S 11	52
Jersey	S 9	48	*Vancouver	S -1	30
Karachi	S 23	73	Venice	S 6	43
Lamaca	S 19	66	Vienna	Sn -4	25
Lisbon	C 10	50	Warsaw	Sn -6	21
Las Palmas	C 16	61	*Wash'ton	S 7	45
Locarno	S 4	39	Zurich	S 1	34

C, cloudy; F, fair; Fg, Fog; R, rain; S, Sunny; Sn, snow.
* Previous day's readings.

SCOTTISH SKI REPORTS

Cairngorm: Upper and middle runs, complete, wide snow cover, surface icy. Lower slopes, complete, wet snow on a firm base. Vertical runs, 1,800ft. Roads, clear. Snow level, 1,900ft.

Glenshee: Upper runs, complete, hard packed snow. Lower slopes, ample nursery areas, hard packed snow. Vertical runs, 1,000ft. Roads, clear. Snow level, 1,000ft.

Glencoe (open Sats, Suns, Mons only): Upper runs, complete, hard packed snow with icy patches. Lower slopes, some runs complete, hard packed snow with icy patches. Vertical runs, 1,500ft. Roads, clear. Snow level, 2,400ft.

Lecht: Upper and middle runs, complete, wide cover hard packed snow on a firm base. Lower slopes, ample nursery areas, hard packed snow on a firm base. Vertical runs, 700ft. Roads, clear. Snow level, 2,000ft.

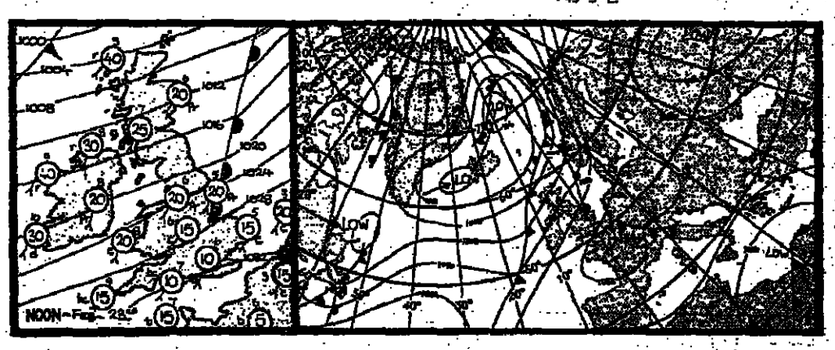
Forecasts Starting dull with extensive low cloud and rain or drizzle, heavy at times. Persisting in west but eastern areas becoming drier. Strong to gale force south-westerly winds will reach severe gale force on the hills.

AROUND BRITAIN

Reports for the 24 hours to 6 pm yesterday:

	Sunshine hr.	Rain in.	Max. temp. C	F	Weather (day)
ENGLAND AND WALES					
London	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Birmingham	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Bristol	—	—	6	43	Cloudy
Cardiff	0.3	—	5	41	Cloudy
Anglesey	4.2	—	8	46	Sunny am
Blackpool	—	—	4	39	Cloudy
Manchester	1.9	—	7	45	Cloudy
Nottingham	—	—	4	39	Drizzle am
Newcastle	3.6	—	11	52	Bright
Carlisle	1.3	—	9	48	Bright pm
EAST COAST					
Scarborough	—	—	3	37	Dull
Bridlington	—	.01	3	37	Dull fm
Cromer	—	—	2	36	Dull
Lowestoft	—	—	2	36	Dull
Clacton	—	—	3	37	Cloudy
Margate	•	—	4	39	Dull
SOUTH COAST					
Folkestone	3.9	—	5	41	Bright pm
Hastings	2.7	—	5	41	Sunny am
Eastbourne	2.6	—	5	41	Bright
Brighton	•	—	3	37	Cloudy
Worthing	—	—	6	43	Dull
Bognor Regis	—	—	4	39	Cloudy
Southsea	0.1	—	5	41	Cloudy
Swanage	1.6	—	5	41	Cloudy
Shanklin	1.3	—	5	41	Cloudy
Ventnor	1.8	—	7	45	Bright
Bournemouth	—	—	5	41	Dull
Poole	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Swanage	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Weymouth	—	—	6	43	Dull
Exmouth	0.9	—	7	45	Cloudy
Teignmouth	2.7	—	9	48	Bright
Torquay	2.7	—	8	46	Bright
Falmouth	0.3	—	8	46	Cloudy
Penzance	5.0	—	10	50	Sunny
Jersey	9.0	—	8	46	Sunny
Guernsey	8.6	—	8	46	Sunny
WEST COAST					
Isles of Scilly	5.5	—	11	52	Sunny
Newquay	2.0	—	9	48	Bright
Ilfracombe	3.5	—	9	48	Sunny
Tenby	0.7	—	7	45	Cloudy
Southport	—	—	6	43	Dull
Morecambe	—	—	5	41	Dull
Douglas	2.3	—	8	45	Cloudy pm
WEST COAST					
Isles of Scilly	5.5	—	11	52	Sunny
Newquay	2.0	—	9	48	Bright
Ilfracombe	3.5	—	9	48	Sunny
Tenby	0.7	—	7	45	Cloudy
Southport	—	—	6	43	Dull
Morecambe	—	—	5	41	Dull
Douglas	2.3	—	8	45	Cloudy pm
SCOTLAND					
Eskdalemuir	—	.02	5	41	Fog am
Prestwick	3.6	.02	8	46	Rain pm
Glasgow	3.6	.02	8	46	Sunny am
Tiree	—	.08	7	45	Rain pm
Stornoway	—	.06	7	45	Rain pm
Lerwick	4.3	.01	6	43	Sunny
Wick	0.6	—	6	43	Cloudy
Kinloss	0.9	—	7	48	Cloudy
Aberdeen	2.6	—	8	46	Bright am
St Andrews	2.5	—	9	48	Sunny am
Edinburgh	3.6	—	8	46	Bright am
NORTHERN IRELAND					
Belfast	2.0	.01	7	45	Rain pm

Warm front; Cold front; Occluded front. Symbols on both sides of a line indicate an almost stationary front. Isobars are drawn for every four millibars. On the smaller map arrows show wind direction, figures in circles wind speed, and figures outside circles temperature. Letters show expected weather as follows: b, blue sky; bc, half-clouded; c, cloudy; d, drizzle; f, fog; h, hail; m, mist; o, overcast; p, showers; r, rain; s, snow; th, thunderstorm. Arrows on the larger map show direction of movement of pressure areas.



SATELLITE PREDICTIONS

The figures give in order, time and visibility, when risen, maximum elevation and direction of setting. An asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

TOMORROW

London

Aryabhata R: 18.55–18.59 SW 45SSE ESE*

Cosmos 1859R: 18.36–18.43 SSW 65ESE NE*; 20.17–20.20 W 30NW NW*

Meteor 2R: 18.11–18.21 SW 40WNW N. Ops 2R: 18.53–19.00 NNW 55WNW SSW; (Feb. 25) 5.32–5.34 E 10ENE NE.

Salyut 7: (Feb. 25) 6.12–6.18 W 85NNE E.

Manchester

Aryabhata R: 18.53–18.59 SW 30SE ESE*.

Cosmos 1859R: 18.36–18.43 SSW 45SE ENE*; 20.17–20.20 W 40NW NW*

Meteor 2R: (Feb. 25) 1.21–1.23 NNE 10NE NE*

Ops 2R: 18.52–18.59 N 65WSW S; (Feb. 25) 5.33–5.34 ENE 10ENE ENE.

Salyut 7: (Feb. 25) 6.12–6.17 WSW 55SE E.

TODAY

London

Aryabhata R: 19.37–19.39 WSW 45SSW SSW*.

Cosmos 1859R: 18.19–18.26 S 35ESE ENE; 19.59–20.03 WSW 40WNW NNW*

Meteor 2R: 18.19–18.29 SW 40WNW N; (Feb 24) 1.30–1.31 NE 10NE NE.

Ops 2R: 19.26–19.32 NNW 30W SW; (Feb 24) 6.03–6.08 ESE 20E KNE.

Salyut 7: (Feb 24) 5.43–5.47 WSW* 60WSW E.

Manchester

Aryabhata R: 19.37–19.39 SW 30S S* Cosmos 1859R: 18.20–18.26 S 25ESE ENE; 19.59–20.03 WSW 60N N*

Meteor 2R: 18.19–18.29 SW 50WNW N; (Feb 24) 1.29–1.31 NNE 10NE NE.

Ops 2R: 19.25–19.31 NNW 35WNW SW; (Feb 24) 6.05–6.08 ESE 20ENE NE.

Salyut 7: (Feb 24) 5.43–5.47 SW* 45 S E.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cms) L	U	State of Piste	Wthr	C
Aviemore	170	205	Good	Fine	2
Excellent conditions					
Davos	30	170	Good	Fine	-1
Good skiing on upper slopes					
Crans-Montana	40	140	Fair	Sun	-1
Icy patches on lower slopes					
Flaine	90	355	Good	Fine	2
Good skiing on all slopes					
Klosters	10	85	Fair	Cloud	-2
New snow on crusty base					
Megeve	50	100	Good	Fine	7
Lower south facing slopes icy					
St Moritz	50	100	Fair	Fine	-6
Hard packed with worn patches					
Verbier	90	200	Good	Sun	-4
Lower south facing slopes icy					
Wengen	100	160	Good	Sun	-5
Good skiing on all runs					

MANCHESTER READINGS

From 7 pm Thursday to 7 am yesterday: Min temp 2C (36F). From 7 am to 7 pm yesterday: Max temp 7C (45F). Total period: sunshine, 1.9hrs; rain, trace.

LONDON READINGS

From 7 pm Thursday to 7 am yesterday: Min temp 3C (37F). From 7 am to 7 pm yesterday: Max temp 9C (41F). Total period: sunshine, nil; rain, nil.

SEA PASSAGES

Southern N Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel: Slight or moderate.
St George's Channel: Moderate or rough.
Irish Sea: Very rough.

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